REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1898–99.

Approved and adopted by the Annual General Meeting, Monday, 1st May 1899.

SINCE the publication of the last Annual Report, on the 7th May 1898, 20 meetings of the Council have been held, of which the Council elected on the 6th June 1898 have held 17. These are exclusive of meetings held by Committees of Council.

In the course of the year 26 Fellows have been elected, 31 Associates, 1 Hon. Fellow, 1 Hon. Associate, and 1 Hon. Corr. Member. Of the 26 Fellows, 12 have been elected by the Council under the new proviso to By-law 9, 7 being Presidents of Allied Societies, and 5 having been unanimously recommended by the Councils of Allied Societies. The numbers in each class of subscribing members stand as follows: Fellows, 613; Associates, 1,003; Hon. Associates, 47.

The only gentleman elected as Hon. Corr. Member is the Professor Felice Barnabei (Rome).

The losses by death to the Institute during the past year have been as follows:—*Fellows:* Henry Bridgford, Henry Hewett Bridgman, Thomas Lainson, Professor Thomas Hayter Lewis, Thomas Rowe, John Gibbons Sankey, Sydney Stent. *Associates:* Hayward Richardson Brakspear, Edmond Egan, Sidney Alexander Ell, Charles Emanuel Evans, John Gillett Livesay, Frederick Mew, George Macfie Poole, William Reddall, Tom Turner. *Hon. Associates:* Sir John Fowler, Major Alfred Heales, George Andrew Spottiswoode, Judge Meadows White. *Hon. Fellow:* Sir Henry William Peek. *Retired Fellow:* James Murray. *Hon. Corr. Members:* Charles Garnier (Paris), J. von Egle (Stuttgart).

In Professor T. Hayter Lewis the Council mourn an old and distinguished member. A special memoir of his life will be found in the current volume of the JOURNAL, p. 126. A serious loss to European architecture is that of Charles Garnier, a Royal Gold Medallist of the Institute. The Council have subscribed to the monument now being erected in Paris to his memory.

Preliminary and Intermediate Examinations were held in June and November 1898 in London, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, and York, and Final Examinations in London. The results are shown in the following tabulated forms:—

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

	Exempted	Examined	Passed	Relegated
Summer	40	92	58	34
Autumn	52	78	46	32
Total	92	170	104	66

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

	Examined	Passed	Relegated
Summer	76	53	23
Autumn	48	32	16
Total	124	85	39

FINAL AND SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS.

	Examined	Passed	Relegated
Summer	30	15	15
Autumn	33	16	17
Total	63	31	32

It will be seen that during the year 196 gentlemen have been registered as *Probationers*, the number of whom now stands at 1,098; and 85 as *Students*, the number of whom now stands at 303.

The Arthur Cates Prizes, for the best sets of Testimonies of Study (supplemented by certain specified sheets of drawings) submitted by Students for admission to the Final Examination, have been awarded to Mr. Albert Herbert for the June Examination, and to Mr. H. Inigo Triggs for the November Examination.

The Ashpitel Prize has not been awarded this year.

The Council desire to express their thanks to the Allied Societies of Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, and York for their help in conducting examinations at those centres during the year.

The Council have again to express their cordial thanks to the Board of Examiners for their gratuitous services.

The Royal Gold Medal for the promotion of architecture was awarded last year to Professor George Aitchison, R.A., for his works as an architect and architectural writer. Her Majesty has graciously signified her approval that it shall be awarded this year to Mr. G. F. Bodley, A.R.A., for his executed works as an architect.

The Deed of Award of the various Prizes and Studentships was presented to the Institute at a General Meeting on the 16th January. After the distribution of the Prizes on the 23rd January a critical appreciation of the work submitted was read by Mr. Beresford Pite [*F.*]. An exhibition of the drawings was held in the rooms on the second floor from the 13th to the 23rd January inclusive. Owing to insufficiency of space in the Institute premises for adequate exhibition of the Prize Drawings, the Council desire to announce that arrangements have been made with the authorities of the Alpine Club, Savile Row, for the use of their hall during the month of January next.

The following selection from the Institute Prize Drawings is now being sent round for exhibition at the various allied centres:—Measured drawings of St. Paul's Cathedral, North Porch, by Mr. H. E. Kirby (*Institute Silver Medallist*); St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, by Mr. Heaton Comyn (awarded Medal of Merit and Five Guineas); Southwold Church, by Mr. Edward F. Knight (awarded Medal of Merit and Five Guineas). Design for a Concert Hall, by Mr. William Arthur Mellon (*Soane Medallist*). Drawings and Sketches by Mr. J. Hervey Rutherford (*Pugin Student*). Drawings by Mr. E. H. Bennett (awarded Medal of Merit and Ten Guineas); by Mr. Ramsay Traquair (awarded Medal of Merit and Five Guineas); and by Mr. Albert Herbert (awarded Honourable Mention). Designs for a Royal Mausoleum, by Mr. James B. Fulton (*Tite Prizeman*), by Mr. Alex. McInnes Gardner (awarded Medal of Merit and Five Guineas), and by Mr. Ernest T. Jago (awarded Honourable Mention). Colour drawings by Mr. James Stewart (*Owen Jones Student*). Design for a Fruit, Flower, and

Vegetable Market, by Mr. G. Gardner Wallace (*Grissell Medallist*). Testimonies of Study for the Final Examination by Mr. Albert Herbert and Mr. H. Inigo Triggs (*Cates Prizemen*), and by Mr. Henry Tanner, jun. (*Extra Prizeman*), and for the Intermediate by Mr. Lionel Upperton Grace, Mr. Thomas Frank Green, and Mr. Thomas Joseph Byrne.

The Royal Institute Annual Dinner was held on the 9th December at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham. Among the guests of the Institute and of the Birmingham Association were the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor of Birmingham, Sir Benjamin Stone, M.P., Sir James Sawyer, Mr. J. Powell Williams, M.P., Mr. William Kenrick, M.P., and Mr. J. T. Middlemore. In the regrettable absence of the President, the chair was taken by Mr. H. L. Florence, *Vice-President*. The dinner was preceded by a Conversazione and a General Meeting at the rooms of the Society of Arts. The Council desire to express their recognition of the hearty co-operation of the Birmingham Architectural Association, to which the success of the gathering was largely due.

The Annual Dinner this year will be held on Tuesday, 27th June, in London, at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole.

The sanction of the Privy Council to the alterations in By-laws 9, 15, 30, and 31 was given at the Council Chamber, Whitehall, on the 19th May. A copy of the official document forwarded to the Institute is printed in the JOURNAL, Vol. V. p. 401.

The revised schedule of professional charges, entitled "The Professional Practice as to the Charges of Architects," was finally agreed upon and adopted at a Special General Meeting of the Institute held on the 27th June.

Since the issue of the last Annual Report the Aberdeen Society of Architects has been admitted to alliance with the Royal Institute.

The Council have taken public action with regard to the New Vauxhall Bridge and the London Government Bill.

The Council, having been requested by the Government to recommend a limited number of architects from whom two might be selected to prepare designs for the New Government Buildings, have been officially thanked for their services, and informed that Mr. J. M. Brydon [*F.*] and Mr. William Young [*F.*] are the architects chosen.

The Competitions Committee have had several meetings, and action has been taken with regard to the following competitions:—International Fisheries Exhibition, Aberdeen; Glasgow International Exhibition; Royal Institution, Liverpool; Tavistock Road, Plymouth; Fire Station, Bradford; Wolverhampton Workhouse; Godalming Municipal Buildings; Swindon Union Workhouse extension; Grammar School House, Doncaster; Wandsworth and Clapham Union.

Special Committees of the Institute are at present sitting to consider respectively the following subjects: the holding of the Institute Examinations in the Colonies; proposals by the Association of Technical Institutions that certain certificates of the Science and Art Department should exempt from portions of the Preliminary and Intermediate Examinations; the administration of Building By-laws in rural districts.

The portrait of Mr. F. C. Penrose, F.R.S. (*Past President*), painted by Mr. John S. Sargent, R.A., came into the possession of the Institute in August last, after having been exhibited in the Royal Academy.

At the request of the Court of Common Council of the City of London, the Council have nominated six architects to send in designs for the new Sessions House, Old Bailey.

The Council are pleased to announce that since the 31st December they have been enabled to invest £1,500 in Tasmanian Government 3½ per cent. stock.

REPORT OF THE ART STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Art Standing Committee report that they have held seven meetings since the publication of the last report. Mr. Alfred Waterhouse, R.A., LL.D., was re-elected Chairman; Mr. Macvicar Anderson, Vice-Chairman; and Messrs. E. W. Mountford and Owen Fleming were reappointed Hon. Secretaries.

St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin.—Plans and particulars of proposed additions to St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, were submitted to your Committee, who were asked to state: (*a*) Whether the addition of modern building to the Cathedral was legitimate and reasonable; (*b*) whether the plan submitted was sufficiently conservative and considerate towards the original plan of the thirteenth century. Your Committee (*a*) determined that, assuming additional accommodation to be necessary for the efficient performance of the services of the Cathedral, it would be legitimate and reasonable to provide it; but (*b*) suggested a modification in the proposed grouping of the buildings.

Kew Bridge.—Your Committee, having had this matter under their consideration, urgently recommended the adoption of granite or stone as the material for the bridge, and, by the instructions of the Council, the Secretary wrote to the County Councils of Middlesex and Surrey conveying this recommendation. In reply the Institute was informed that stone would be used.

Vauxhall Bridge.—This subject has received further consideration, and, as the result of some correspondence between the Secretary of the Institute and the Chairman of the London County Council, the Chairman (Mr. Waterhouse, R.A.), with Messrs. Statham and Mountford (Hon. Secretary), waited upon the Chairman of the London County Council and stated their views as to the design prepared by Sir Alexander Binnie.

Historic Buildings in London.—At the invitation of the London County Council your Committee invited Messrs. Brydon, Mountford, and Young to represent the Institute at a Conference held by the Council. The Conference determined to prepare a register of all buildings of architectural or historic interest in the County of London, and a Committee was appointed, of which the Hon. Secretary of the Committee is a member.

Florentine Monuments.—The attention of your Committee having been directed to extensive alterations that appeared to be contemplated in the ancient quarters of Florence, steps were taken to assist the English Committee who had been appointed to deal with this matter. Signatures were obtained from members of the Institute and its Allied Societies to a memorial of protest, which has been presented to the Municipality of Florence.

Artistic Copyright.—Your Committee have had under consideration the questions of Artistic Copyright, and Messrs. Statham and Caröe were appointed to represent the Institute at the Conference.

Decoration of St. Paul's Cathedral.—This matter is engaging the attention of your Committee.

The following subjects have also received the consideration of the Committee:—Portrait of Sir William Chambers; Trinity College, Dublin; the Casino at Mont Saint-Michel; the Protestant Cemetery at Rome; the Kapell-Brücke, Lucerne; and the proposed Arts and Crafts Exhibition.

REPORT OF THE LITERATURE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Literature Standing Committee report that since the election of the Committee on 6th June 1898 the Committee have held eight meetings. At the first meeting of the new Committee Mr. Alex. Graham, F.S.A., was reappointed Chairman, Mr. R. Phenè Spiers, F.S.A., Vice-Chairman, and Messrs. R. Elsey Smith and Arthur S. Flower, M.A., Hon. Secretaries.

The following Sessional Papers arranged for by the Committee have been read:—"The Comparative Value of Documentary and Architectural Evidence in establishing the Chronology of the English Cathedrals," by Francis Bond [*H.A.*], M.A. Oxon., F.G.S., on 21st November 1898; "Fireproof Construction of Buildings in the United States," by R. W. Gibson, on 5th December 1898 (under the management of the Science Standing Committee); "Some Practical Hints on the Production and Use of Electricity for Lighting Country Houses," by Bernard M. Drake, M.I.E.E., and "Practical Applications of Electrical Power," by H. R. J. Burstall, M.Inst.C.E., on 19th December 1898; "Public Baths and Washhouses," by A. Hessell Tiltman [*F.*], on 6th February 1899; "Municipal and Public Libraries," by J. M. Brydon [*F.*] and F. J. Burgoyne, on 20th February 1899; "Some Early Christian Churches in Palestine," by A. C. Dickie [*A.*], on 6th March 1899; 20th March, "Norman Vaulting in England," by John Bilson [*F.*]; 10th April, "The Application of Colour to Interior Ornament in Relief" (under the management of the Art Standing Committee). The following papers have been arranged for subsequent dates:—15th May, "The Architectural Element in Engineering Work," by H. H. Statham [*F.*]; 29th May, "Planning and Construction of Board Schools," by T. J. Bailey [*F.*].

The Committee desire to acknowledge their indebtedness to the authors of the several articles and reviews contributed to the JOURNAL during the past year, viz.:—Prof. Aitchison, R.A., the Cavaliere Boni, Prof. Baldwin Brown, Col. Lenox Prendergast, Major G. K. Scott-Moncrieff, R.E., Messrs. W. J. Anderson, John Bilson, A. T. Bolton, P. H. Boussac, James Burgess, W. Brindley, Frank Caws, S. Giampietri, Frank Granger, John Hebb, William Henman, E. W. Hudson, A. S. Murray, Roland W. Paul, J. Tavenor Perry, William Scott, William Simpson, R. Phenè Spiers, H. H. Statham, J. A. Strahan, A. E. Street, W. Wonnacott.

The new arrangement in reference to the date of publication of the JOURNAL, which is now issued on Saturdays, has been found to answer satisfactorily.

The Librarian has now completed the Supplement to the Brandon Catalogue up to the end of the year 1898. The Catalogue is in type, and will shortly be issued to members. It will occupy about one hundred pages of printed matter, and the Committee desire to take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of the promptness and care with which this important work has been carried out by the Librarian.

The Committee have to report the satisfaction with which they have received from the family of the late Professor T. Hayter Lewis a valuable collection of books and pamphlets for the Library.

The Librarian reports to the Committee as follows:—

During the twelve months ending on the 31st March of the present year 262 volumes and 24 pamphlets have been added to the Library of the Royal Institute, exclusive of periodicals, reports and transactions of Societies, and parts of works issued in serial form.

The number of volumes presented to the Reference Library was 169.

The works purchased comprise 96 volumes, out of which 61 volumes were added to the Loan Library.

The attendances of readers and borrowers during the year numbered 4,241 (in 1897, 3,042; in 1898, 3,716), the number of works issued on loan being 1,163 (in 1896, 831; in 1897, 931; in 1898, 1,073). The number of attendances is shown in the following table:—

Date	Day Attendances. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.					Evening Attendances. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.					
	Members.		Non-members.			Members.		Non-members.			
	Library.	Periodicals only.	Library.	Periodicals only.	Total.	Library.	Periodicals only.	Library.	Periodicals only.	Total.	Books issued on Loan.
1898.											
April	33	14	68	8	123	28	12	38	1	79	86
May	52	14	92	10	168	21	9	49	12	91	98
June	39	18	62	6	125	32	9	48	6	95	93
July	51	7	60	2	120	25	4	33	9	71	55
August	Reference Library closed.					Reference Library closed.					29
September	42	6	55	6	109	25	4	47	5	81	64
October	96	4	109	10	219	47	3	95	7	152	102
November	79	17	136	15	247	33	8	79	11	131	129
December	64	9	95	19	187	39	13	66	10	128	110
1899.											
January	80	5	116	3	204	46	10	60	11	127	130
February	62	10	123	6	201	28	5	69	13	115	138
March	64	6	122	6	198	20	5	75	7	107	129
Total	662	110	1038	91	1901	344	82	659	92	1177	1163

The number of volumes consulted in the Reference Library during the year was 6,322.

The number of tickets issued for admission to the Library other than to members of the Institute, or to Students and Probationers, was 53.

In accordance with the instructions of the Committee, a catalogue of the books received during the last twelve years (from June 1887 to December 1898) has been compiled. The final proofs of this are now under revision, and the catalogue will shortly be available for members.

Donations of valuable books have been received during the year from the executors of the late Professor Hayter Lewis, from Mr. Charles Fowler [*F.*], and from Mr. Andrew Oliver [*A.*].

Three portfolios of drawings by the late Mr. Robert J. Johnson, comprising the original drawings for his *Specimens of Early French Architecture*, have been presented by Mrs. Johnson.

Among other donations received during the year may be mentioned *Stockholm*, by E. W. Dahlgren, and *Operabyggnaden i Stockholm*, presented by Professor I. G. Clason [*Hon. Corr. M.*]; *Die Baukunst der Renaissance in Frankreich*, by Baron H. von Geymüller [*Hon. Corr. M.*], presented by the Author; *Landes-Gewerbemuseum in Stuttgart*, by Professor F. S. Neckelmann [*Hon. Corr. M.*], presented by the Author; Sach's *Modern Opera Houses and Theatres* (vol. iii.), presented by Mr. H. L. Florence [*F.*]; *Municipal Architecture in Boston, from Designs by E. M. Wheelwright*, presented by Mr. Wheelwright; *Histoire de l'Architecture*, by A. Choisy [*Hon. Corr. M.*], presented by the Author; *Traité d'Architecture*, by L. Cloquet, presented by the Author; *Einige Skizzen*, by O. Wagner [*Hon. Corr. M.*], presented by the Author.

REPORT OF THE PRACTICE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Practice Standing Committee report that the usual monthly meetings of the Committee have been held. Mr. J. Douglass Mathews and Mr. Thomas Harris were re-elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Mr. J. Osborne Smith and Mr. C. H. Brodie were elected Hon. Secretaries, Mr. Smith taking the place of Mr. Woodthorpe who resigned.

The points raised on the Institute Conditions of Contract referred to in the last Report, and also other important questions on these Conditions, referred to the Committee by the Council were very fully considered, and reports thereon sent to the Council, special attention being called to the decision in the Court of Appeal in the case of *Dodd* v. *Churton* (19th

March 1897) as affecting all contracts. The Lords Justices decided that the giving of extra work nullified the time for completion clause and consequent fine for non-completion.

A report was also sent to the Council on the question of the liability of architects for license as appraisers, intimating that, in the opinion of the Committee, they are not in ordinary practice liable to this tax.

The consideration of the Revised Schedule as to the Professional Charges to be made by Architects was continued and concluded, and the proposed new Schedule sent to the Council. After amendment by the Council, assisted by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, this was finally ordered to be issued as an Institute paper at a Special General Meeting on 27th June 1898. The Schedule, as finally amended and adopted and issued, was printed in the JOURNAL of the 23rd July 1898.

At the request of the Committee the Council have agreed to obtain counsel's opinion as to the liability of architects under the new Workmen's Compensation Act, and a list of questions to be submitted to counsel was drawn up by the Committee.

A suggestion that the Committee should be allowed to interview and advise members of the Institute as to difficulties arising in their practice was not agreed to by the Council, on the ground that this work was already undertaken by one of their own committees.

The Committee have considered the London Government Bill, and reported thereon to the Council.

REPORT OF THE SCIENCE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Science Standing Committee report that they have held six meetings since the publication of the last Annual Report, with an average attendance of 8 members. Mr. P. Gordon Smith was appointed Chairman; Mr. W. C. Street, Vice-Chairman; and Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood and Mr. Max. Clarke, Hon. Secretaries.

The Committee are still awaiting the publication of the Results of the Experiments for the purpose of ascertaining the strength of different kinds of brickwork.

The Committee, having reported to the Council on the subject of standardizing the size of bricks to the effect that they should like the matter referred back to the Committee with a view to coming to an agreement with the Brickmakers' Association to fix the standard, appointed a sub-committee to meet a sub-committee appointed by the Institution of Civil Engineers, and a joint standard was agreed to by the joint committee and referred to the Association for discussion. The joint committee have not been able to meet to consider the replies of the Association owing to the absence from England of one of the members of the Engineers' sub-committee, but it is hoped that the standard will be agreed on in the course of a few months.

On the subject of Building Regulations for the purpose of reducing the liability of warehouses, &c., to destruction by fire, an interesting Paper was obtained from Mr. R. W. Gibson on the subject of American Fireproof Construction, and read at a General Meeting of the Institute. Further information is being obtained.

FINANCES.

The accounts of Ordinary Funds for 1898, prepared by Messrs. Saffery, Sons, & Co., chartered accountants, and audited by Mr. Zeph. King [*F.*] and Mr. F. W. Marks [*A.*], the Hon. Auditors appointed at the Annual General Meeting of 1898, here follow;—

Income and Expenditure Account of Ordinary Funds for the Year ending 31*st December* 1898.

Dr. Exclusive of Entrance Fees and Final Examination Fees; and Subscriptions received in advance for 1899. **Cr.**

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Ordinary Expenditure—						
Rent	935	0	0			
Gas and Electric Lighting	75	4	5			
Coals	21	12	0			
				1031	16	5
Salaries				1229	3	4
General Printing, Stationery, Stamps, and Petty Expenses				471	5	8
Expenses of General Meetings, Exhibitions, &c.				189	13	1
Housekeeping (including Office Attendant)				138	9	1
Advertisements in Newspapers				29	17	0
Examination Expenses				252	3	9
General Repairs				144	15	10
Fire Insurance				20	4	6
Medals and other Prizes				83	5	6
Grant to Library				100	0	0
Grant to Architectural Association				100	0	0
The Journal—						
Reporting	54	12	0			
Printing and Binding	606	17	6			
Illustrations	129	14	4			
Addressing, Posting, and Carriage	228	5	6			
				1019	9	4
The Kalendar—						
Printing	141	2	0			
Posting and Carriage	22	7	9			
				163	9	9
Contributions to Allied Societies				238	9	0
Miscellaneous Expenses—						
Legal Expenses and Accountants' Charges	34	13	8			
Translation of Prof. Ussing's Pamphlet	10	0	0			
Frame for Portrait	11	0	0			
Books for Library (Special)	21	9	6			
Sundries	9	5	6			
				86	8	8
Birmingham Meeting and Annual Dinner				52	3	2
Balance of income over expenditure				1241	9	10
				£6592	3	11

INCOME.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Ordinary Income—						
Subscriptions—						
557 Fellows	2339	8	0			
Ditto, Arrears	67	4	0			
944 Associates	1982	8	0			
Ditto, Reinstated	2	2	0			
Ditto, Arrears	179	11	0			
49 Hon. Associates	102	18	0			
Ditto, Arrears	14	14	0			
				4688	5	
Dividends on Stocks and Shares—						
Architectural Union Co.	157	16	0			
Consols	38	4	4			
Tasmanian Government Stock	16	19	0			
Interest on Deposit	33	3	9			
				246	3	1
Sale of Publications (other than Journal and Kalendar)				180	10	11
Use of Rooms—						
District Surveyors' Association	25	0	0			
Architectural Association	6	10	0			
R.I.B.A. Tenants	55	0	0			
				86	10	0
Examination Fees—						
Statutory	14	14	0			
Preliminary	487	4	0			
Intermediate	238	7	0			
Final (extra)	43	1	0			
				783	6	0
Journal and Kalendar—						
Advertisements	530	0	0			
Sales	77	8	11			
				607	8	11
				£6592	3	11

SAFFERY, SONS, & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the several vouchers and found to be correct. 21*st March* 1899. (Signed) { ZEPH. KING. / F. W. MARKS.

Dr. *Balance Sheet of Ordinary Funds,* 31*st December* 1898. **Cr.**

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Sundry Creditors outstanding				201	10	3
To Examination Fees anticipatory of election				97	13	0
To Subscriptions for 1899 received in advance				98	16	0
To *Accumulated Funds*—						
Surplus of Liquid Assets over Liabilities as per last Balance Sheet	6764	1	11			
Add Entrance Fees received in 1898	145	19	0			
Arrears for 1898 (as per contra)	201	12	0			
	7111	12	11			
Less Arrears included in 1897 account since received or cancelled	£305 11 0					
Balance of Brick-testing Fund written off	36 18 2					
Furniture bought	246 7 4					
	588	16	6			
	6522	16	5			
Balance of Income over Expenditure in 1898	1241	9	10			
				7764	6	3
				£8162	5	6

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Cash at Bank				1514	9	5
By Investments*:—						
Architectural Union Co., 263 Shares	3643	1	0			
Consols 2¾ per Cent. £2000	2037	17	5			
Tasmanian Government 3½ per Cent. Stock £501 2*s.* 9*d.*	550	0	0			
				6230	18	5
By Debtors				127	1	8
By Subscriptions in Arrear 1896–97	88	4	0			
Ditto 1898	201	12	0			
				289	16	0
				£8162	5	6

* *Total of Investments in* 1897 ... £4970 0 6
Additions in 1898, *viz.*—
£1000 2¾ *per Cent. Consols* ... £1112 7 11
11 *A.U.C. Shares* 148 10 0
1260 17 11
Total Investments as above ... 6230 18 5

SAFFERY, SONS, & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined with the several vouchers and found to be correct. 21*st March* 1899. (Signed) { ZEPH. KING. / F. W. MARKS.

The Revenue Account and Balance Sheet of Trust Funds for the year 1898, audited by Mr. Zeph. King [*F.*] and Mr. F. W. Marks [*A.*], here follow:—

Revenue Account of Trust Funds for the Year ended 31st December 1898.

Dr. **Cr.**

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Aldwinckle Studentships:—							
To Cash paid Student 1897, 2nd instalment [A. T. Griffith]	25	0	0	By Balance from last Account	75	0	0
To Cash paid Student 1898, 1st instalment [J. B. Fulton]	25	0	0				
To Balance carried forward	25	0	0				
	75	0	0		75	0	0
Ashpitel Prize Fund:—							
To Balance carried forward	22	7	0	By Balance from last Account	10	7	0
				By Dividend on 20 Shares, Architectural Union Co., at 12s. per share	12	0	0
	22	7	0		22	7	0
Charitable Fund:—							
To Cash paid Architects' Benevolent Society	5	5	0	By Balance from last Account	0	18	4
To Balance carried forward	1	0	0	By Dividends on £200 10s. 2¾ per Cent. Consols	5	6	8
	6	5	0		6	5	0
Donaldson Testimonial Fund:—							
To Cost of Medals	2	15	0	By Balance from last Account	0	10	0
To Balance carried forward	0	10	6	By Dividends on £72 L. & N.W. Railway 4 per Cent. Preference Stock	2	15	6
	3	5	6		3	5	6
Godwin Bursary:—							
To Cash paid Bursar 1897, 2nd instalment [R. S. Ayling]	20	0	0	By Balance from last Account	13	15	11
To Cost of Medal	1	19	6	By Dividends on £1030 Caledonian Railway 4 per Cent. Debenture Stock	39	16	6
To Balance carried forward	31	12	11				
	53	12	5		53	12	5
Grissell Legacy:—							
To Cost of Medal	9	18	0	By Dividends on £300 Great Indian Peninsula Railway 5 per Cent. Stock	14	10	0
To Balance carried forward	4	12	0				
	14	10	0		14	10	0
Library Fund:—							
To Purchase of Books, Binding, &c.	112	18	8	By Balance from last Account	36	6	9
To Printing, Stationery, &c.	2	12	6	By Donation from Architectural Union Company	30	0	0
To Petty Expenses	2	9	6	By Annual Donation from Mr. Sydney Smirke	5	0	0
To Balance carried forward	60	12	7	By Donation from Mr. S. R. J. Smith	2	0	0
				By Entrance Donation of one Hon. Associate	2	2	0
				By Grant from Ordinary Funds	100	0	0
				By Fines (Loan Collection)	3	4	6
	178	13	3		178	13	3
Owen Jones Studentship:—							
				By Balance from last Account	53	1	4
To Cash paid Student 1897, 2nd instalment [A. E. Henderson]	25	0	0	By Dividends on £1773 6s. 8d. Midland Railway 3 per Cent. Debenture Stock	51	8	6
To Balance carried forward	132	13	2	By Dividends on £1100 Great Western Railway 5 per Cent. Consolidated Stock	53	3	4
	157	13	2		157	13	2
Pugin Memorial Fund:—							
				By Balance from last Account	13	17	10
To Cash paid Student 1897 [W. Heywood]	40	0	0	By Dividends on £1070 L. & N.W. Railway 4 per Cent. Preference Stock	41	7	6
To Extra Prize [B. Bower]	5	5	0				
To Cost of Medals	2	19	0				
To Balance carried forward	7	1	4				
	55	5	4		55	5	4
Tite Legacy Fund:—							
To Cash paid Prizeman 1898 [J. S. Lee]	30	0	0	By Balance from last Account	16	15	10
To Extra Prize [T. A. Pole]	10	10	0	By Dividends on £1150 2½ per Cent. Consols	30	11	4
To Balance carried forward	6	17	2				
	47	7	2		47	7	2
Travelling Fund:—							
				By Balance from last Account	5	7	0
To Balance carried forward	42	14	5	By Dividend on £830 Madras Railway 4½ per Cent. Stock	18	9	0
				By Dividend on £870 „ „ „ „	18	18	5
	42	14	5		42	14	5

Examined with the several vouchers and found to be correct. 21*st March* 1899. (Signed) { ZEPH. KING. F. W. MARKS.

Dr. *Balance Sheet of Trust Funds, 31st December* 1898. Cr.

	£	s.	d.
To Ashpitel Prize Fund:—			
Capital—20 Shares in the Architectural Union Company, Limited, at £14 per Share	280	0	0
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	22	7	0
To Charitable Fund:—			
Capital—£200 10s. 2¾ per Cent. Consols	195	14	9
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	1	0	0
To Donaldson Testimonial Fund:—			
Capital—£72 L. & N.W. Railway 4 per Cent. Preference Stock	89	0	0
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	0	10	6
To Godwin Bursary:—			
Capital—£1030 Caledonian Railway 4 per Cent. Debenture Stock	1344	13	6
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	31	12	11
To Grissell Legacy Fund:—			
Capital—£300 Great Indian Peninsula Railway 5 per Cent. Guaranteed Stock	513	14	10
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	4	12	0
To Library Fund:—			
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	60	12	7
To Owen Jones Studentship:—			
Capital—£2128 Midland Railway 2½ per Cent. Debenture Stock (£ 1773 0 0)			
£1100 Great Western Railway 5 per Cent. Consolidated Stock (1900 12 0)			
Balance at credit of Revenue Account (132 13 2)			
	3806	5	2
To Pugin Memorial Fund:—			
Capital—£1070 L. & N.W. Railway 4 per Cent. Preference Stock	1342	12	6
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	7	1	4
To Tite Legacy Fund:—			
Capital—£1150 2¾ per Cent. Consols	1109	1	6
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	6	17	2
To Travelling Fund:—			
Capital—£870 Madras Railway 4½ per Cent. Stock	1155	11	0
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	42	14	5
To Aldwinckle Studentships Fund:—			
Balance at credit of Revenue Account	25	0	0
	£10039	1	2

	£	s.	d.
By Government and other Securities for total value of Trust Funds invested	9704	0	1
By Cash in hands of Bankers	335	1	1
	£10039	1	2

Examined with the several vouchers and found to be correct. 21*st March* 1899. (Signed) { Zeph. King. / F. W. Marks.

Schedule of Property.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Furniture as per last year's Schedule	2435	13	4			
Additions in 1898	246	7	4			
	2682	0	8			
Less Depreciation	67	1	0			
				2614	19	8
Printed Books				4000	0	0
Oil Paintings				1800	0	0
Lithographs, Prints, &c.				400	0	0
Water-colours				600	0	0
Models, Plaster Busts, &c.				146	0	0
Marble Busts				150	0	0
				£9704	19	8

In conclusion, the Council submit an Estimate of Income and Expenditure of Ordinary Funds for the twelve months of 1899, exclusive of Entrance and Final Examination Fees:—

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Rent, Lighting, and Warming	1060	0	0
Salaries	1275	0	0
General Printing, Stationery, Postage, and Petty Expenses	510	0	0
General Meetings, Exhibitions, &c. (including hire of Gallery)	245	0	0
Housekeeping (including Office Attendant)	145	0	0
Advertisements	35	0	0
Examination Expenses	260	0	0
General Repairs (including cleaning and painting of Premises)	100	0	0
Fire Insurance	25	0	0
Medals and other Prizes	155	0	0
Grant to Library	100	0	0
Grant to Architectural Association	100	0	0
The Journal (Reporting, Printing, Binding, Carriage, &c.)	1025	0	0
The Kalendar	165	0	0
Contributions to Allied Societies	250	0	0
Miscellaneous Expenses (including Dinner)	100	0	0
Legal and Accountants' Charges	50	0	0
Estimated Balance of income over expenditure	1100	0	0
	£6700	0	0

Income.	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions and Arrears	4750	0	0
Dividends on Stocks and Shares and Interest on Deposit Account	265	0	0
Sale of Publications (other than Journal and Kalendar)	190	0	0
Journal and Kalendar— £ s. d.			
Sales 80 0 0			
Advertisements 530 0 0			
	610	0	0
Use of Rooms	85	0	0
Examination Fees— £ s. d.			
Statutory 10 0 0			
Preliminary 500 0 0			
Intermediate 250 0 0			
Final (Extra Fees) 40 0 0			
	800	0	0
	£6700	0	0

MORGENSTER, SOMERSET WEST.

ARCHITECTURE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

A Review of the Past and Present.

By ARTHUR H. REID [*F.*],

PAST PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS.

PART I.

IN reviewing such a subject as the one I have undertaken, by request of the Editor of the JOURNAL, it is somewhat difficult to separate the social history of the peoples to whom the Colonies are indebted for their architectural relics from the history of the buildings themselves. I think, however, that by carefully studying the illustrations that are proposed to be the chief attraction of this contribution a fair reflection of the social conditions of the inhabitants of this country from time to time must result; and perhaps their countrymen in Holland, France, and England may appreciate the disadvantages under which all the buildings have been constructed, and credit their authors with having done their best to reflect the traditions and artistic tastes of their individual nationalities. Although the history of South Africa as a European settlement dates back to 1652, when Commander Van Riebeck founded the first Dutch settlement, the author will limit his remarks to the two centuries, 1700 to 1900; for it was, as a matter of fact, under the *régime* of Simon van der Stel, from 1679 to 1699, and after the arrival of the Huguenot refugees in 1689, that really permanent homes and public buildings were erected, and it is from that period all the works to be reviewed were conceived or constructed. To Van der Stel we owe the interesting and somewhat ornate portions of the castle now occupied by the General in command of the Forces, and it is understood that he brought out with him from Holland much of the materials and fittings used in their construction. The entrance to the castle [fig. 1] was about the first work undertaken, and the enrichments in the tympanum and frieze comprise arms of the different Netherlands pioneers, the monogram of the Dutch East India Company, ands other emblem.

For some years religious services were held in the hall of the General's quarters, until

1704, when the old Dutch Church was completed, some portions of which form part of the present Dutch Reformed Church in Adderley Street [fig. 2]. Van der Stel was not content with applying his energies to the settlement only, but soon struck out inland, the result of his expedition being the town of Stellenbosch. The first house was built at Zwaanswijck, and is now used as a barn; but, to show the character of the people of those days, and their desire to do everything well and substantially, all the joinery of this old barn was constructed of solid teak. It was about this time too that the well-known estate at Constantia, on the boundaries

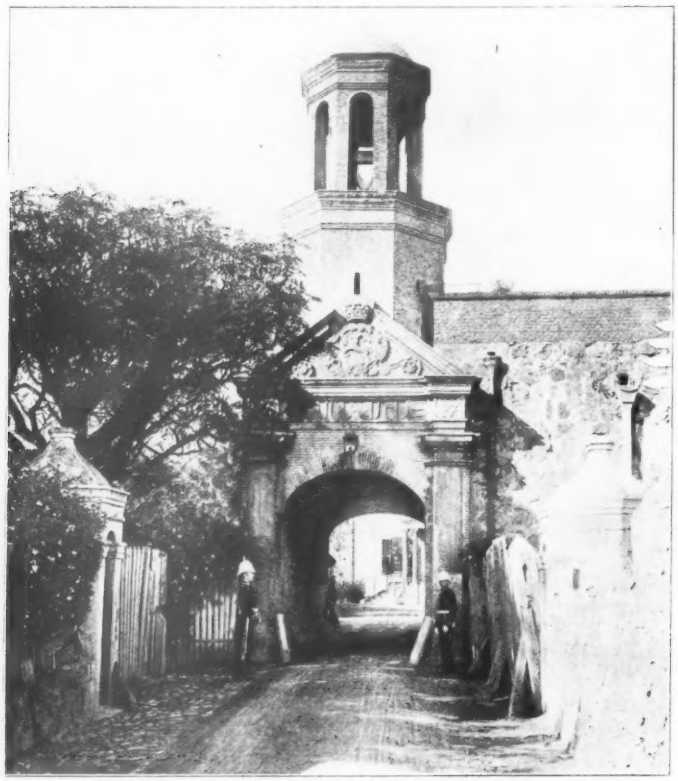


FIG. 1.—ENTRANCE TO THE CASTLE, CAPETOWN.

of the present township of Wynberg, was built by Van der Stel, and the celebrated vineyards were planted which produce the wine bearing the name of the estate. After exchanging owners many times, this fine property became the home of the Cloete family, and it can fairly be said that the whole place is thoroughly characteristic of the times and the leading people, and, being so, I shall do my best to describe the salient features of its construction, planning, architecture, and fittings. A general view of the house is shown in fig. 3, and practically comprises the characteristic features of all the old Cape buildings. The roof is entirely of rush thatch, without eaves, gutters, or any means of intercepting the rain-water. The walls are entirely of locally made bricks, the output of the slave labour of those days, and are plastered outside with lime made from burnt shells collected on the shores of Table Bay, the whole being washed

with white lime water. The mouldings are essentially flat in section, the window-frames are of teak, the top sashes being, as they are, strange to say, in nearly every house, fixtures, and the lower sashes, as a rule, not hung by lines and weights, as in modern windows. The frames are in all cases fixed flush with the outside face of the wall, and the sashes glazed with small panes of glass, doubtless owing to the difficulty of getting larger ones in those days. Teak shutters of quaint pattern are hung by hook hinges with ornamental plates of original design, all of which were, it is said, made by artificers who were specially sent out by the Dutch Government to assist in the constructive works that Van der Stel had laid himself out to initiate. The sashes are invariably painted white, and the frames and shutters green. The doors and frames generally match the windows. It will be noticed that an utter disregard to the escape of foul air from the upper portions of the rooms exists, and it may fairly be said

FIG. 2.—THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH, CAPETOWN.

to exist in every old building. The natural consequence is an escape of foul air through the floors into the rooms above, when the houses are double-storied. The inside ground floors are generally of large square, red, imported Dutch tiles, for coolness in summer, though in some of the better-class houses an excellent glazed tile was used. The principal reception-rooms, however, generally had boarded floors of colonial hardwoods, such as stinkwood or yellow wood, and in many cases teak. Skirtings were not generally considered a necessity, and a painted dado was often substituted for them. Ceilings were universally discarded, as the tie-beams of roof-trusses were wrought, and left exposed to view from below. On the top of these beams hardwood flooring was fixed, and on the upper side of that a layer of "brand solder," or pugging of clay and chopped straw, was laid about three inches thick to keep the rooms cool and to prevent dust from falling through the joints of floors, which were not rebated or tongued as they are in more modern buildings. Cornices or mouldings of any kind to the under side of the flooring are unknown. The tie-beams were always massive timbers about 8 inches by 6 inches, as great weights were often put upon the floors, the roof-space being used for

storage purposes. Hence the large windows generally found in the gables, few, if any, of which open, thus keeping up the apparent disregard of ventilation. Fireplaces or chimneys were seldom considered necessary, and their absence or scarcity in all houses is a feature that at once strikes a newcomer. The inside doors are generally of stinkwood or teak, and are marvellous to modern eyes on account of their enormous size and the fact that nearly all have only one, or at most two panels, which, if one may judge by the general absence of cracks or open joints, must have been in one width. The writer has examined many upwards of 30 inches wide, and failed to detect any joint.

Applied mouldings to panels or joinery were unknown, all stiles and rails being solid moulded to their panel arrises. The panels, as a rule, were raised both sides with splayed margins, and scrolled with sometimes enriched corners. The few original locks that exist are of the old "stock" type, with brass handles of the "crutch" type, and heavy brass hinges of

FIG. 3.—GROOTE CONSTANTIA, WYNBERG.

thoroughly good and quaint design. Finger-plates seem to have been unknown. The shutter-hooks, hinge-plates, and holdfasts are generally of solid brass, of severe but pleasing design; indeed, all these details, in their thoroughness and spirit, reflect the cultured common-sense of those who designed and paid for their manufacture, which is generally stated to be the result of the imported artificers before referred to. Curved transoms to both doors and windows are not uncommon, and some of them are heavily moulded; the old door that was originally in the castle, and is now the property of Mr. Rhodes at Groot Schuur [fig. 4], is a fair sample, and the only one that the author has seen with bolection mouldings to the panels, which may be a modern addition. The elaborate keyhole-plates and escutcheon, as well as the carved tracery to the fanlight, are interesting as illustrating some of the foregoing remarks; and the front view of Groot Schuur [fig. 5] shows a type of the large panelled door and gable lights before referred to.

The "stoep" is absolutely a feature of all Cape houses, whether old or new. The floor, as a rule, is of the well-known small yellow Dutch bricks laid on edge, or of large red tiles imported from Holland. The ends, as a rule, have low walls across them, with seats and

wing-walls. Brick-plastered pillars are built along the front to support a vine trellis, but, strange to say, they are seldom covered by a roof or verandah. Perhaps the quaintest architectural feature to be found in all the old homesteads is the gable, dear to the heart of all true Dutchmen, and one in the treatment of which I think they may fairly be allowed to excel. A perusal of the illustrations will make this point self-evident, but as a further illustration the author would call attention to that at the head of this article (Morgenstein, Somerset West, built about 1776). But undoubtedly the most ambitious, artistic, and beautiful gable of all is that over the entrance to the wine-cellar at Groote Constantia [fig. 6], where the tympanum is enriched by the finest piece of plaster modelling to be found in the country. In vain the author has endeavoured to ascertain the name of the artist and designer. The scheme is of the Bacchanalian type, showing children sporting and intertwined with bunches of grapes, with a centre feature of a tiger grotesque, encircled by an oval festooned margin or frame of original and beautiful design, from the bottom of which exquisitely modelled drapery swags past to the right and left, where the ends terminate in the clutches of two children. The whole scheme is full of vigour, magnificent in execution, and a lasting testimony to the excellent class of skilled labour that was present here in those days, but has not found patrons either in public bodies or private individuals since.

FIG. 4.—OLD DOOR FROM THE CASTLE, CAPETOWN.

Entrance gates and approaches to the homesteads have in the better class of old houses received considerable attention. With regard to the internal arrangement in planning of the older houses perhaps the less said the better, as from a modern point of view they do not realise the ideals of comfort, convenience, or privacy. The vestibule or "voorhuis" is certainly a feature that might with advantage and a due regard to privacy be perpetuated by modern architects, or rather their clients. It was usually of large size, run back from front to back of the house, and divided into two or more sections by wooden glazed screens, so that the back portion could be used as a room, or the whole as a ball-room. From this "voorhuis" both sitting- and bed-rooms opened, which meant that the servants in the execution of their duties in the bedrooms were constantly in contact with the guests or inhabitants of the house. Passages were seldom introduced into the plans of a residence, as the roofs, being of thatch, could not be safely constructed to cover more than the width of one room, especially as they were in those days of great width. The difficulty was overcome by throwing out wings with an enclosed yard between them. The "voorhuis" would be in the centre of the front or entrance-block, and be surmounted by a gable.

Wall cupboards in the larger houses were often prominent features, in which the large panelled doors played a prominent part, and involved much skill and labour in producing the brass hinge-plates, escutcheons, &c., that were fitted to them.

As the town of Capetown increased in size, however, thatch roofs became dangerous and

difficult of adaptation to the needs of town life. In the town residences, though the "voorhuis" remained a distinct feature in the planning, branch passages were thrown off it to serve rooms that flanked them on both sides. This of course involved roofs of larger span than could well be covered with thatch in one span. A substitute was therefore found in the flat roof of shell-lime concrete that has always been, and is still, a characteristic of old Capetown houses. Of course, parapet walls were a necessary adjunct to these flat roofs, and are a marked departure from the open eaves of the thatched roofs. The lime concrete was made of slaked shell lime, mixed with broken shells, and deposited upon the upper side of the ceiling boards of the rooms, which were supported by ponderous beams, wrought and moulded on their arrises, and spanning the whole width of each room. It was usually about six inches thick, and while wet the surface was beaten all over, so as to work the whole lot into a compact mass and bring the lime up to the surface. As a rule, nothing

FIG. 5.—GROOT SCHUUR, CAPE.

more was done, and the roofs remained fairly water-tight; but many were covered with red tiles, and provided a splendid promenade or drying ground. They are marvellously cool, and easily repaired should they crack through expansion or contraction during changes of temperature. No better example of this class of building could be found than the old Town House [fig. 7], which was built in the year 1755, and is the most elaborate structure of the times now to be found in the city of Capetown. A careful inspection of its architectural details will be interesting, if not instructive.

In many of the town and country houses, quarters were provided for the slaves who were in general use by the more wealthy burghers prior to the English occupation and ultimate emancipation by the British Government in the year 1833. At Constantia these quarters were situated in the rear of the building and under the dining-hall, and were dark crypts or cellars. Fig. 8 (Stellenberg, near Wynberg) shows the old slave quarters of that mansion as they existed in a special detached building.

There is an interesting homestead, erected in 1800 during the first British occupation.

The farm is named Le Dauphiné, and is situated in the district of French Hoek, near Paarl. It is generally conceded that the homesteads of French Hoek contained a magnificent collection of old furniture, chinaware, and articles of great value, brought from their unhappy but dear old homes by the French Huguenot gentry, who as refugees were settled in this particular district by Van der Stel. Even now many of the wardrobes and cupboards have solid silver handles, and at a Mr. Hauman's there is a fine old carved ebony chair, of German origin, brought over by his ancestors in the eighteenth century. Many fine specimens

FIG. 6.—PEDIMENT TO WINE STORE, GROOTE CONSTANTIA, WYNBERG.

of Chinese pottery and other ware were to be found in these old homesteads, but they have been purchased by wealthy visitors from time to time and removed to other centres. Mr. Rhodes has many valuable relics among his collection at Groot Schuur.

Stellenberg Farm (Kenilworth, near Wynberg) is a most interesting example of one of the fine old homesteads of the eighteenth century. The village of Wynberg was founded in 1839 or 1840, and Stellenberg was the residence of Commissioner de Mist in 1803. The plan is of the orthodox type, with the usual central hall or "voorhuis," with rooms opening out of it on each side and carried out as wings in the rear, and there connected by a wall with a gate in it, thus forming an enclosed yard. The design of the bolts, handles of doors, and of catches to shutters is very quaint, and finger-plates are to be found on the doors.

It was in the year 1800 that the foundation-stone of the existing Dutch Reformed Church in Capetown was laid, a view of the present appearance of which is shown in fig. 2.

The only attempt at frescoes as mural decoration that the author can hear of is to be found at the homestead "Libertas," near to Stellenbosch, which was reconstructed by one Adam Tas in 1771, at which time a German artist painted, among others, the cartoon of "Charity" over the peculiarly crude fireplace in the central hall. This fireplace is concealed by teak panelled doors for use in the summer season.

In 1795 the English fleet sailed into Simon's Bay, and, after a skirmish, took possession of the colony and held it until 1801. During this period, on account of the general unrest

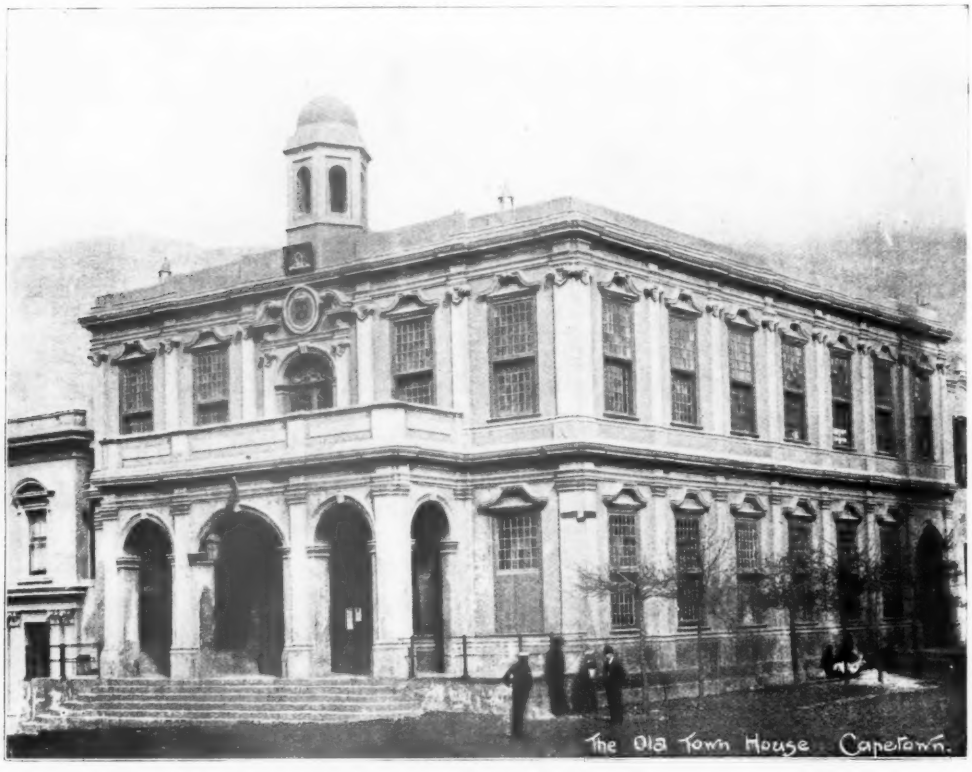


FIG. 7.—THE OLD TOWN HOUSE, CAPETOWN.

consequent upon the change of government, little appears to have been done in the building line. In 1801 the country was given back to the Dutch, and in 1802 Commissioner de Mist and General Janssens hoisted the flag of the Batavian Republic at the Castle; and then commenced the oppression of the British settlers who had remained in the country, which was carried on in spite of protests and threats until 1806, when General Sir David Baird with a large force landed at Saldanha Bay and marched upon Capetown, meeting and routing General Janssens' army at Blauwberg. From this time it may be said the social conditions of the people began to change—as far as the polite arts went, it would seem not for the better. The first building of any importance that was undertaken during the second British occupation was St. George's Cathedral, built when Sir Lowry Cole was head of the Government. For many years sedan chairs continued in use, and, as no waterworks had

been constructed, the water for domestic purposes had still to be carried from wells. With the abolition of slavery the farming community were absolutely ruined, and desolation took the place of comparative prosperity in the country districts where the farmers were without labour. Their old homes soon lapsed into disrepair, and for want of money and labour many fell into a more or less ruinous condition. For this reason the author has felt much pleasure in providing his professional brethren of South Africa, as well as those in Europe, with a memento of what has been done in the past and is now slowly but surely disappearing under the aggressive influence of modern requirements.

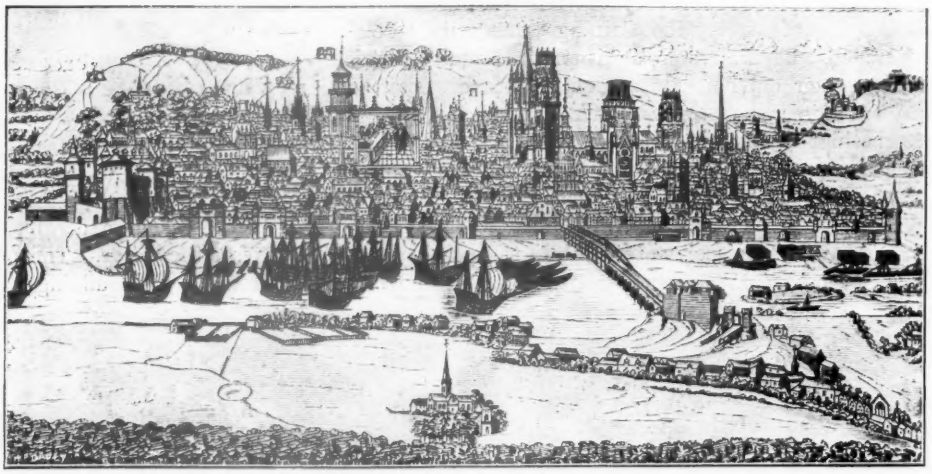
And now let us pass on, and imagine that fifty years have passed as a dream, for from an architectural point of view the less said about those fifty years the better. The only relics of those years are such monstrosities as the present Supreme Court Buildings, the

FIG. 8.—OLD SLAVE QUARTERS, STELLENBERG, WYNBERG.

demolished Exchange, St. George's Cathedral, and a few other equally uninteresting structures that are already doomed, and will shortly have disappeared, to make way for nineteenth-century edifices that will be handed down to posterity as a reflection of the popular taste of *our* days, in the same way as the old Dutch relics that it has been my privilege to describe illustrate to us the tastes and social peculiarities of those fine old gentlemen who have passed away but are not forgotten. May our works do us credit, and may the coming generation of architects give us credit for having done the best we could under existing local circumstances!

In the remarks that are to follow in another number of the JOURNAL my readers must understand that I have only selected some of the largest and best works of our South African architects, all of which have been carried out during the twenty-two years that I have been resident and in practice in South Africa. The monstrosities emanating from the jerry-builder and architectural parasites had better be passed over in the silence that is golden.

(To be continued.)



View of Rouen, drawn by Jaques Lelieur in 1525.

REVIEWS.

ROUEN ("MEDIÆVAL TOWNS SERIES").

The Story of Rouen. By Theodore Andrea Cook. Illustrated by Helen M. James and Jane E. Cook. Fcp. 8o. Lond. 1899. *Price* 4*s.* 6*d.* [*Messrs. J. M. Dent & Co.*, 29–30 *Bedford Street, Covent Garden.*]

The volume before us belongs to the "Mediæval Town Series" of Messrs. Dent, of which the volumes on Perugia, Rouen, and Toledo are now published. The whole Series deserves our warmest commendation. The Perugia volume has already reached a third edition. The new volume on Rouen is a feast of good things from cover to cover. It encourages one to hope that the day of the dryasdust guide-book is over—at any rate for the Continent. We remember well a visit to Brescia, under the guidance of Mr. Hare's *Cities of Northern Italy*. Lists there were in abundance of second-rate pictures and third-rate masters, but the author had not even discovered the existence of one of the most precious remains of Christian antiquity—no less than an eighth-century basilica. Mr. Cook's method is very different; he recognises that architecture is the authentic expression of life and history; that not merely an advance in time but a different phase of life and feeling is represented by the buildings which successively arise. He has amply realised the ideal set forth by the conductors of the Series. Author and artist have both "made the objects and scenes described the subject of careful personal observation, and have imparted to their work that charm of local colour which lends vitality to their pictures; every old-time thoroughfare and weather-beaten fabric supplies some legend of saint or hero, and as the story progresses the reader's imagination is kindled until the very spirit of the past pervades the page and peoples the scenes with the picturesque attributes of former times."

Even to architectural students who know their Rouen much that Mr. Cook has to tell will be new. His account of the Norman work in the church of St. Gilles, the chapel of St. Julien, and the apse of St. Paul is both interesting and important. He enters into the very spirit of the bygone builders. This is how he approaches Rouen Cathedral:—

> Through those doors, which were shut sternly in the face of princes under the Church's ban, the poor man gladly passed from the hovel that was his home. Out of the dark twisting streets whose crowded houses pressed even against the walls of the Cathedral, the humblest citizen might turn towards the beauty of a building greater and more wonderful than any that his feudal lord could boast. He found there not merely the sanctuary, not merely the shrine of all that was holiest in history or in creed, but the epitome of his own life, the handicrafts of his various guilds, as at Rouen, the tale of all his humblest occupations, the mockery of his neighbours' foibles, the lessons of the horror of sin. For before the end of the thirteenth century, the handicraftsmen, associated into such guilds as we have seen in Rouen, had not only won their freedom from arbitrary oppression, but had secured so large a share in the government of the towns, that, within the next fifty years, the heads of the communes were nearly always the delegates from the craft guilds. The zenith of Gothic architecture coincided with this period of their triumph; its bright, and glittering, and joyful art spread all over the intelligent world, and more especially in France; it was not contented with merely architectural forms in colourless cathedrals, but decorated them with carvings painted in gay colours, used

every space for pictures, drew upon all literature for its materials. In Dante, Chaucer, and Petrarch, in the German *Niebelungenlied*, in the French romances, in the

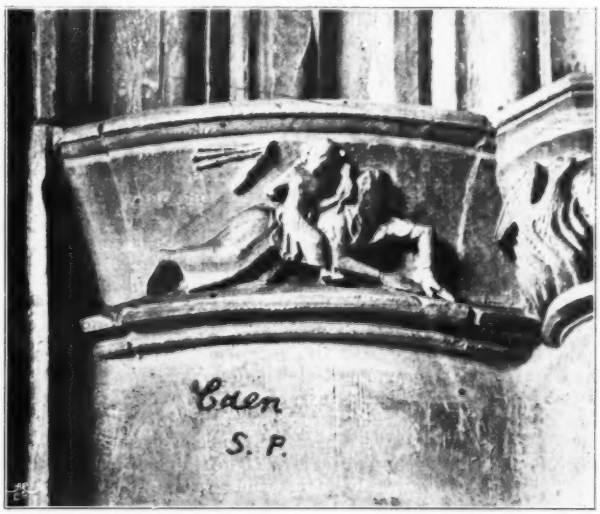
The original West Front of St. Ouen which was pulled down to erect the modern façade.

Icelandic Sagas, in Froissart and the chroniclers, you may find the same spirit; and each town smote its own epic into stone upon the walls of its cathedral. Every village, even, had its painter, its carvers, its actors; the cathedrals that have remained are but the standard from which we may imagine the loving perfection to which every form of craftsman's art was carried. And their work gives us such pleasure now because they had themselves such intense pleasure in doing the work.

The book is excellently equipped with maps, plans, and illustrations; many of them—*e.g.* the view of Rouen, drawn by Jacques Lelieur in 1525 [see opposite page], and that of Rouen as shown in the engraving by Mérian in 1620—are of the utmost importance and interest. The book possesses also five maps showing respectively the natural position of Rouen on the Seine, and the gradual development of the place from the earliest Gallo-Roman citadel to the modern town. All the streets, houses, and public buildings mentioned are clearly marked, so that the reader is able to find his way to one point of interest after the other, and watch the unfolding of the story of the town by tracing its progress from the earliest relics of Christian architecture to the latest development of modern commerce.

Of particular interest is an architect's sketch of the façade of St. Ouen, made in 1846. It was the very reverse of the façade of St. Maclou, which curves outwardly. At St. Ouen there is a curve inward, in which the central door was "pushed back, and at an angle on each side of it the arched portals of the aisles curved forwards, and above them rose two towers, each a reduced copy of that larger exquisite central tower which crowns the Abbey. Though the old masonry remained, and though a complete working drawing of the whole façade was discovered in the archives of the town, the job of pulling everything down and building the new and horrible spires was given to an architect who had already destroyed an old tower in the angle of the courtyard of the Palais de Justice, and had made a 'grille' for its façade filled with inconsequent anachronisms and errors."

We cannot imagine a more delightful way of spending a week than to pass it at Rouen under the guidance of Mr. Cook's little book. The ancient city is still crowded with beautiful architecture, and its wealth of late painted glass is only equalled at Troyes. Particularly commendable is the action of the Government in turning all the windows of one of the churches into a repository of the painted glass which has been saved from secularised churches. And in the Museum the authorities have adopted the excellent plan of arranging in chronological order a series of specimens of old glass of every period; nowhere can



one study stained and painted glass so well; their procedure might well be copied by the South Kensington authorities. One or two minor slips may be noticed. The author pleads earnestly for

a reproduction in London of the "Field of the Cloth of Gold" from the Hôtel Bourgtheroulde. Is he unaware that a reproduction of the whole façade is to be seen in the Crystal Palace? He describes the crypt of St. Gervais—we wonder how many visitors to Rouen have seen it—built soon after 404, as the oldest crypt in France. It may be so; but there are crypts under crypts, both at St. Germain, Auxerre, and beneath Chartres Cathedral, which seem of immemorial antiquity.

He mentions that the "Lai d'Aristote" occurs in stone on the exterior, and is repeated in the stalls, on the misericorde which "is the ninth of the top row on the southern side. The gay young lady seated upon Aristotle's back wears the high two-horned headdress of the fifteenth century, and a long closely-fitting gown, with the open bodice that was the mark of the oldest profession in the world She is controlling the philosopher with a bridle and a most murderous-looking bit between his teeth. I have already explained that Socrates and Xantippe are by no means intended here, and that the tale is represented of the downfall of Aristotle in his attempts to prove to Alexander the Great how easily the charms of women might be resisted. The subject seems to have tickled the Middle Ages immensely, and was especially likely to be popular in Normandy, where Henry d'Andelys, the author of the poem called 'Lai d'Aristote,' was born. A very similar tale of the gallant adventures of the poet Virgil occupied one of the lost stalls of this cathedral, and in St. Pierre de Caen both were represented among the carvings of the church."

As a matter of fact, the carving at St. Pierre, Caen, is there still, and we have taken the trouble to reproduce it for Mr. Cook's benefit. But these are small flaws in an excellent book; as the Master of Trinity observed, "we are none of us infallible, not even the youngest of us." But there is an astounding statement on p. 116 which really cannot be passed over, where Mr. Cook tells us that he would like the term "Gothic" to be abandoned in favour of "French"! But "if it is too much to expect of future writers that they will give up the phrase, let them at least follow the advice of Mr. Moore, and limit 'Gothic' to the French Pointed School of the Ile de France." This simply takes the breath away. The mischief Mr. Moore's book has done to tender minds is simply incalculable. We advise Mr. Cook to cast away the works of darkness and Mr. Moore, to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the article on Mr. Moore's book which appeared in the *Builder* for the 15th March 1890, p. 185, and to perpend the recent utterance of M. Choisy: "En dehors de la France centrale *l'architecture anglaise* est une de celles où le génie gothique se manifeste avec le plus d'originalité." The italics are our own.

FRANCIS BOND.

9, CONDUIT STREET, LONDON, W., *6th May* 1899.

CHRONICLE.

Members of the Institute acting as Assessors in Architectural Competitions.

On the recommendation of the Competitions Committee the Council desire urgently to draw the attention of members to the following resolution passed at the Meeting of the Council held on Monday, the 1st inst.:—

> "That any member of the Royal Institute asked to act as Assessor, subsequent to the conditions of the competition having been drawn, should obtain a copy of the conditions and consider their conformity with the 'Suggestions' issued by the Royal Institute, and should also notify to the Secretary of the Institute that he has been asked to act."

New Nomination to the Council.

The following nomination to the Council has been made by Fellows and Associates conformably with By-law 30, namely:—

SIDNEY ROBERT JAMES SMITH [*F.*], nominated by Alex. R. Stenning, A. Hessell Tiltman, Francis J. Smith, Wm. Harvey, Theo. Allen, *Fellows*; Clarence T. Coggin, Syd. Fowler, *Associates*.

The Spring Statutory Examination.

Pursuant to section 140 of the London Building Act 1894, an Examination of Candidates for Certificates of Competency to act as District Surveyor in London was held by the Institute on the 20th and 21st ult. Of the five gentlemen who presented themselves and were examined, four passed and have been granted by the Council certificates of competency. The following are the names and addresses of the successful candidates:—

HAROLD DOUGLAS ELDRIDGE, of Sandycoombe, East Twickenham.

HENRY HOYNE FOX [*F.*], of 30, Criffel Avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.

HARRY GEORGE LESLIE, 20, Salvin Terrace, Putney.

CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM SURREY [*A.*], of 10, Neville Terrace, South Kensington, S.W.

President of the N.S.W. Institute elected Fellow.

The Council, at their Meeting on the 1st inst., elected the following gentleman to the Fellowship of the Royal Institute, under the proviso to By-law 9:—

JOHN BARLOW, of Lyndhurst Chambers, 84 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, New South Wales, President of the Institute of Architects of New South Wales.

The Decoration of St. Paul's.

Minute of Interview regarding the Decoration of St. Paul's Cathedral, held at the Deanery on April 15th, 1899.

Present on behalf of the Chapter of the Cathedral:

THE DEAN OF ST. PAUL'S.
ARCHDEACON SINCLAIR.
CANON NEWBOLT.

And on behalf of the Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects:

PROFESSOR AITCHISON, R.A., *President.*
ERNEST GEORGE, *Vice-President.*
J. M. BRYDON, E. W. MOUNTFORD } *Members of Council.*

Mr. Brydon having explained that the deputation from the Institute did not appear in any unfriendly spirit either to the Decorations Committee or to Sir William Richmond, but rather for the purpose of stating their views as architects on the decoration of St. Paul's now going on, called attention to the injurious effect of the stencilling on the cornice and frieze of the great order of the interior and the arches under the dome; also to the panels and rosettes recently inserted in the triangular spaces in the alternate arches, which had with great judgment been left plain by Wren, with the result that the scale and breadth of effect and the dignity of Wren's work were being destroyed.

This was supported by Mr. Ernest George and Mr. Mountford, who also remarked upon the lettering round the semi-domes as producing a crowded effect, highly detrimental to the richness of the work immediately above and below it.

These various matters having been fully discussed, the Dean assured the deputation that what had been said would be carefully considered by the Decorations Committee at their next meeting, but that it might be taken that the stencilling was experimental and would be all thoroughly reconsidered and probably removed, though in the absence of Sir William Richmond and Mr. Somers Clarke the Dean felt he could say nothing further, except that he was glad to have had the opportunity of hearing expert opinion on such important matters.

After thanking the Dean for his courtesy, the deputation, accompanied by Archdeacon Sinclair, proceeded to the Cathedral, went up on the scaffolding and inspected the work now in progress. While there, attention was attracted to an iron railing fixed on the main cornice over the north portion of the organ. The Archdeacon explained that it is intended to carry such a railing all round the Cathedral to enable a close view to be had of the mosaics; whereupon it was pointed out that if this were done the proportion of the attic above the main cornice would be seriously impaired, and it was urged that if a railing were really found to be necessary it should be of a very much lighter and more open design, so as not to interfere with the architectural lines of the interior.

It was hoped that Archdeacon Sinclair would kindly bring this point before the Committee for reconsideration.

The deputation maintained generally that if any architectural feature (such as cornice, architrave, or panel) is to be coloured or gilt, it is desirable to treat the whole of such feature as one, and not pick out parts, by which latter course the scale, proportion, and expression of the mouldings are lost.

*** An article in the *Saturday Review* of the 22nd ult., from the pen of the well-known D. S. M., entitled "Largely Experimental," expresses so admirably the general views entertained by architects on the decorative work in progress in St. Paul's Cathedral, that the following extracts from it may fitly be inserted in the JOURNAL:—

"The Dean of St. Paul's may be thanked for exposing in a word the alarming frivolity of which 'a committee of taste' is capable in dealing with the church entrusted to its care. Questioned by a deputation from the Institute of British Architects, he replied that the decoration under the dome was 'largely experimental.'" . . . This expression "means that the authors of the scheme, who were so delighted with a section that they put the rest in hand, are now so taken aback by the reception of their precious scheme that they are as ready to condemn as before to admire. . . . 'Largely' may be taken to mean that the committee hope, by throwing overboard the stencilling, to save the glass ornaments. . . . Either let us have Sir W. Richmond or Sir Christopher Wren. The admirers of either will not be content with a mixture. It will not be necessary to strip off the mosaics in the quarter-domes. These are spaces that might reasonably be treated with mosaic, and a coat of plaster will put them to rights when the subscribers have had their money's worth of pleasure out of them. But all the tinsel and tattoo around and above these is of a piece, and a contradiction of Wren's design, and the glass panels, if left on the jambs of Wren's piers, will continue to taint the architecture. . . . Suppose a man with a love of snappy sentences let loose upon Milton's verse and cutting up his rolling lines into new sections. Thus for

> Still in their station all the planets stood,
> While the bright pomp ascended jubilant—

we should read

> The planets kept their place. They all stood still.
> Up went the pomp. It was a gay affair.

If the stopping of Milton's verse, its alternation of continuous and broken lines, is of the essence of his art, so is an architect's use of broken and empty spaces, and to pick little panels out of what Wren left plain is to correct his rhythm in the spirit of the above decoration of Milton. . . . The pledges given by the Dean of St. Paul's and the committee of decoration in the appeal for subscriptions were that 'Sir Christopher Wren's intentions, his mode of treatment, and, as far as they can be authenticated, his very designs will be scrupulously kept sacred and followed'; and 'to prepare carefully digested drawings and models which should be exhibited as publicly as possible.' . . . Are we to take the Dean's words literally, and regard the work now carried out as the promised experimental model?"

The Building Crafts.

The following Address was delivered by the President, Professor Aitchison, R.A., at the opening of the Building Trades Exhibition at Islington on the 26th ult.:—

My Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—We have come here to see the opening of the International Building Trades Exhibition. Most persons will allow that it is an important exhibition, as the mere fact of building, even in so great a capital as London, forces attention to it even while passing in a vehicle; but it is only when we consider the great number of industries that are necessary to it that we can form a true idea of its importance. No building of brick, of stone, or of concrete can be erected without lime or cement, at least in this country, for we read of Babylon being built of bricks and asphalte. Who was the inventor of mortar we do not know, but we know that the pyramids of Gizeh were put together with it. Lime generally involves a quarry from which the limestone has to be extracted, the building of kilns, and the use of firing, carts and horses to draw the lime, and roads to draw it on, the building of carts, the leather and iron work for the horses, and food, clothing, and habitations for the men, and stables and meat for the horses, not to speak of the men and materials required for making the roads. It is to the necessity for limestone and fuel that we owe the destruction of so many temples and other grand classical monuments; and when I tell you that the marble of the Mausoleum was used by the Knights of Rhodes to burn into lime for the repair of the walls of the Castle of Budrum just before it was taken by Solyman the Magnificent, you will not be surprised at the havoc made among the priceless monuments of antiquity mainly from the same causes, the roofs being used for the fuel. Viollet-le-Duc gives a long list of all the trades and occupations that are involved in building, which, to the best of my recollection, fills several pages of his great work. We have come here, however, to see the new inventions, and the new applications of machinery to our craft. This show is more or less useful to everyone, but it is particularly useful to the architects, and I am sure if there are architects here they will bear out my statement of its advantages. The application of machinery to all sorts of productions has been of immense advantage to all those engaged in building, and of course no less useful to those who occupy the buildings that the architect has designed and the builder executed.

I may mention a peculiar use that I have seen one of the modern inventions put to here. The invention is a sheet of wire-work; at the intersection of the wires small pieces of terra-cotta are fixed on. Some of this wire-work I saw had been bent into the shape of a groined roof, and when plastered inside and out it made a very stiff and apparently serviceable roof, and if it only has the incombustible qualities that are claimed for it it will be a very valuable preventive to the destructiveness of fire. There are doubtless hundreds of other serviceable inventions here which may be used by the architect and the builder.

I may mention one application of machinery to joiners' work that I was very grateful for. I once wanted to use some square moulded balusters, and the expense of working these by hand was too great to allow of their use being thought of, but I found an exhibit here that had been worked by machinery, which so much reduced the cost as to enable me to use them.

One of the ancient Roman poets spoke of

> "Dreadful war
> Yoked the red dragons to her iron car";

but the elemental dragons have been yoked by the moderns to the golden car of peace. The ancients used the fall of water to work mills, and the force of wind to propel ships; but just before our time the application of steam had increased our power of production at least a hundredfold. Tennyson, whose poems were published in 1832, spoke of its then last triumphs:

> "In the steamship, in the railway, in the thoughts that shake mankind."

Shortly after we had the electric telegraph, which has rivalled Puck's boast:

> "I'll put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes."

Electric lighting has come since, which has almost verified the ungallant Welsh saying, that "if ladies were as nimble with their fingers as they are with their tongues they would catch the lightning to light the fire with"; and when we consider the progress of electrical science since the days of Pliny the Elder—who tells us that if you rub a piece of amber on your toga it will attract bits of straw—to our knowledge of it to-day—to the X rays, which have shown us an undreamt-of power—it opens a vista which almost paralyses us to contemplate.

On this occasion we have exhibits of electrical appliances for light. The electric light has made a revolution in the illumination of houses and cities, and enabled us to get effects that were never even dreamt of before; not to speak of the application of electricity as a motive power.

One of the great revolutions that has taken place in my time has been the increased wages of the working class, and now they give the great stimulus to production; but, like other revolutions, it has not been wholly advantageous, for it has been the means of encouraging what I may call the manufacture of rubbish. Up to a comparatively late period England was celebrated for the excellence of its workmanship. English cabinet-work was known abroad for the excellence of its wood and fitting, and for the absence of artistic design; and England, I hope, is still celebrated for the excellence and durability of its machinery. But in some classes of manufacture it is almost impossible to get anything that is really good. There is an insane desire to have things cheap, without regard to their excellence and durability, or even their temporary utility. The bulk of English cabinet-work is very different from what it once was: small fastenings that have the appearance of solid brass bend in your fingers as if they were of lead, while sash-lines and chair-bands are made of some stuff that is scarcely stronger or more durable than tinder. In certain trades there is a counterpoise to this passion for rubbish. In all the things that have to do with health, that are commonly called sanitary appliances, perfection of workmanship is one of the necessities. This is of an immense advantage to the workman and manufacturer; it teaches them to be thorough, careful, and accurate, for the tests which sanitary experts apply instantly discover imperfect workmanship and materials.

Twenty or thirty years or still longer ago I pointed out the enormous advantage it would be in manufacturing towns to have the whole outer faces of their buildings covered with enamelled bricks or enamelled terra-cotta. This is now done with white or pale-coloured bricks when there are questions of light to the premises themselves or to those of their neighbours; but the appearance of such buildings is rather more hideous than when they are built of the ordinary brick. There are ridiculously few buildings of enamelled brickwork or earthenware where any attempt is made to give to them beauty of form and colour. This is due to three causes: to the wretched leasehold system, to the time required, and the accidents to shape and colour inherent in the potter's trade, and to the desire of people to get artistic designs for nothing. As to the advantages: in the first place, dust and soot do not cling so much to a polished face as they do to rough and porous surfaces, and that which does stick may be pretty well removed by the free use of a water-hose; but the thing I wish most to insist upon is the great importance to mankind of beauty both in form and colour. It cannot be supposed that Nature did not know her business, and that her making almost all her works more or less beautiful in form and colour was not of some advantage to man. To me it seems certain that the beauties which pervade the earth, the air, and the ocean were intended for man's purification, solace, and delight; and that in great towns, where Nature is shut out, and where even the sky is obscured by smoke and dust, there must be a necessary lowering of man's intellectual and moral powers, unless those gifted men who can impart beauty are employed to confer those beauties they have culled from Nature on the habitations, the furniture, and the utensils of town people. May I be allowed to draw your attention to the magnificently designed and coloured friezes in the Louvre that were once in Darius's palace at Susa?

The late Charles Garnier, the greatest architect of our time, published in 1869 a book he called *Through the Arts* (*A travers les Arts*), and in that he gave his dream of the beautification of Paris:—

> I picture to myself the day when the tawny tones of gold will mark the monuments and constructions of our Paris; I imagine the warm and harmonious tints which will tremble under our charmed gaze. One will then have renounced those grand right-angled streets, beautiful beyond doubt, but as cold and formal as the etiquette of a noble dowager. The present inflexible regulations will have their period of reaction, and without hurting anybody each man will be able to build his house without making it exactly like his neighbour's. The grounds of cornices will shine with eternal colours, piers will be enriched with sparkling panels, and gilded friezes will run the length of buildings; the monuments will be clothed with marble and enamel, and mosaics will make all in love with movement and colour. This will not be mean or false luxury; it will be opulence, it will be sincerity. The eye, familiarised with all these marvellous tints and brilliancy, will necessitate our costumes being modified and being coloured in their turn; the whole town will be one harmonious reflection of silk and gold.

I think, to take a modern instance, our manufacturers might take a lesson from Wedgwood, who not only took the greatest pains to render his ware excellent, but also used as his designers the most celebrated artists of the day, and for this reason his ware was called for in every part of Europe, and, I expect, may now be found serving its purpose in many out-of-the-way places. When I first went to Italy in 1853 it was quite common to have one's meals served on Wedgwood ware. But Wedgwood was only a tardy imitator of the originators of this traffic, the Egyptians and Phœnicians. Schliemann found some of the blue glazed earthenware of Egypt in Agamemnon's palace at Mycenæ. This ware bothered the translators of Homer, who had no idea of the trade in blue ware, and in the

description of Alcinous's palace in the Odyssey, Pope supposes it to be metal—

> "The cornice high
> Blue metals crown in colours of the sky."

And after these great traffickers the artistic Greek exported his vases and other fictile ware, enriched with representations from his poets or from the folk-lore of his country, whose storied jugs, dishes, goblets, and coolers now fill the museums of every civilised country in the world, and are their most cherished possession and their greatest boast.

I have dwelt on this at great length, for I still hope that our country may furnish to the whole world artistic productions which may vie with the works of Flaxman, if they do not equal the superhuman excellence of the Greeks. The saying of John Addington Symonds should be imperishably engraved on the minds of all those who deal in artistic wares: "Nothing is imperishable but high thought, to which art has communicated the indestructible form of beauty."

Fire-resisting Concrete.

The following letter has been received from the Clerk of the London County Council:—

Spring Gardens, S.W.: 18th April 1899.
THE LONDON BUILDING ACT.

SIR,—I send herewith for your information a copy of a resolution passed by the Council at its meeting on Tuesday, the 28th of March last—

"(*a*) That the Council do, in pursuance of the powers vested in it by the second schedule of the London Building Act 1894, approve of the following material as fire-resisting, namely, concrete composed of properly burned coke-breeze, free from dust and organic impurities, and Portland cement, in the following proportions, viz.—five parts by measurement of coke-breeze to one part by measurement of Portland cement, mixed together with clean water to the satisfaction of the district surveyor, when such concrete is used for filling in between the joists of floors, and is filled in to the depth of at least five inches.

(*b*) That notice of such approval of the Council be given to the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Surveyors' Institution, the London Chamber of Commerce (incorporated), the Institute of Builders, and to the district surveyors under the London Building Act 1894, and be also advertised in the leading daily and professional papers."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
C. J. STEWART,
Clerk of the Council.

The Secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

AT a meeting of the Société Centrale des Architectes Français held on the 27th April, Mr. Arthur Cates [*F.*] was elected a Corresponding Member of the Society.

MINUTES. XII.

At the Sixty-fifth Annual General Meeting (the Twelfth General Meeting of the Session), held Monday, 1st May 1899, at 8 p.m., Mr. Edw. A. Gruning, *Vice-President*, in the Chair, with 24 Fellows (including 14 members of the Council), 24 Associates, and 1 Hon. Associate, the Minutes of the Meeting held 10th April 1899 [p. 352] were taken as read and signed as correct.

The decease was announced of Herr J. von Egle, *Hon. Corresponding Member*, of Stuttgart, elected in 1882.

The Secretary announced the results of the Spring Statutory Examination, and read the names and addresses of successful candidates who had been granted by the Council Certificates of Competency to act as District Surveyors in London [p. 374].

The Report of the Council for the official year 1898–99, a copy of which had been previously issued to every member resident in the United Kingdom, having been submitted and taken as read, its adoption was formally moved by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. Ed. W. Mountford [*F.*], whereupon a discussion ensued [see *Appendix*], at the conclusion of which the Meeting

RESOLVED, *nem. con.*, that the Report of the Council for the official year 1898–99 be approved and adopted.

The Secretary read the Report of the Hon. Auditors for the official year, as follows:—

To the Royal Institute of British Architects,—

GENTLEMEN,—We have fulfilled the duty entrusted to us of auditing the accounts of the Institute for the year 1898. Thanks to the order and regularity with which these have been kept, an otherwise onerous task has proved a pleasure, and we have been enabled to accomplish our work both rapidly and carefully. We have examined all the books, accounts, and vouchers, and have verified the several securities, all of which we have found in order and perfectly correct. We have accordingly to report most favourably on the businesslike manner in which the accounts of the Institute have been kept, and our satisfaction with the result of our investigation.

It is very satisfactory to note that the investments during the year amounted to £1,260 17*s.* 11*d.*, which, added to the total investments at the end of 1897 of £4,970 0*s.* 6*d.*, brings up the total amount of the investments of the Institute at the present time to £6,230 18*s.* 5*d.*

We wish to call attention to the net profit on the year's working (*i.e.* the excess of income over expenditure), which amounts to £1,241 9*s.* 10*d.*, and thus shows an increase of £124 18*s.* 9*d.* on the year 1897, which was considered a good financial year for the Institute. Further, the Council have the satisfaction of finding that the estimated balance of £1,000 for 1898 has been exceeded by a sum of £241 9*s.* 10*d.* In regard to this surplus it should be observed that the rent of the Institute has been increased by £175, that the amount paid in salaries shows an increase of nearly £200 (chiefly owing to the Secretary not having been appointed till the half-quarter day in May 1897), and that the necessary repairs have exceeded by £114 the amount expended last year.

We therefore think the Institute may be congratulated on its good financial position.

We trust we may not be exceeding our duty as auditors in suggesting that a certain amount of the profits each year should be invested to form a building fund, so that in course of time the Royal Institute of British Architects may have a building of its own which may be worthy of the honourable position it holds amongst the profession and the public, and may help to beautify London.

We cannot conclude our report without expressing our thanks to the officials of the Institute for the very able

and willing service they rendered us in the examination of the accounts.

23*rd March* 1899. (Signed) { ZEPH. KING. FRED. W. MARKS.

The lists of attendances of members at the several meetings of the Council and Standing Committees during the official year having been submitted and taken as read [see *Supplement* No. 12], the Council were authorised to appoint Scrutineers to direct the election of the Council and Standing Committees for the ensuing year of office, and report the result thereof to the Business General Meeting of the 12th June.

On the motion of the Hon. Secretary, a vote of thanks was accorded Messrs. Zeph. King [*F.*] and F. W. Marks [*A.*] for their services as Auditors, and briefly responded to by Mr. Zeph. King. On the motion of Mr. J. M. Brydon the same gentlemen were nominated to serve as Auditors for the ensuing year.

With reference to the appointment of the Statutory Board of Examiners, the Chairman having announced that Mr. Francis Chambers, owing to advancing years, wished to retire from the Board, and that Mr. Thomas Blashill had been asked and had expressed his willingness to serve, Mr. Blashill's appointment to the Board was unanimously agreed to, and the other members were reappointed as follows: Messrs. Lewis Angell, Professor Banister Fletcher, Ebenezer Gregg, Fred. Wm. Hugh Hunt, E. B. l'Anson, Professor Kerr, J. Douglass Mathews, Lacy W. Ridge, Professor T. Roger Smith, Benjamin Tabberer, Thomas Henry Watson.

The proceedings then closed, and the Meeting separated at 10 p.m.

APPENDIX.

Discussion on the Annual Report.

The adoption of the Report having been moved and seconded as stated above,

MR. ARTHUR CATES [*F.*] said the attendance in the room showed that the Report had hardly proved a great attraction for members. It was greatly to be regretted that the Council had not taken advantage of the literary ability of the gentleman sitting in the secretarial chair to dress up the facts and statements in a more graceful and attractive manner than they appeared in the document circulated to members. The Report professed to give information, but the information given was merely particulars, and not information at all. With regard to the most important point for the Institute, namely, the number of its members and its progress onwards in increasing that number, which was most essential for its continued existence and prosperity, the information vouchsafed was that in the course of the year there had been 25 Fellows elected and there were now 612, that there had been 31 Associates elected and there were now 1,003, and one Honorary Associate elected and there were now 47. He had been actuated by a curiosity which perhaps was pardonable, he really thought almost commendable, to look back a few years and see what the numbers were in the past, information which the Council had not vouchsafed to them. He found in 1895 that the Fellows numbered 604; and thus after all the struggle of five years, after all the Fellows Committees, and all the wrangles and discussions that had taken place with regard to the election of Fellows, they had succeeded in 1899 in bringing the total up to 612, an increase of eight Fellows in five years. As regards the Associates the result, perhaps, was a little more satisfactory, but not very much so. In 1896 there were 968 Associates, and in four years that class had been increased by 35, and now numbered 1,003. With regard to Honorary Associates, in 1895 there were 61, and in 1899 only 47. Those figures deserved the most careful consideration of the Council, in order that they might devise some means by which the numbers and strength of the Institute might be increased in a manner befitting the Royal Institute of British Architects, which represented architects not only of these islands of Great Britain and Ireland, but also of all the Dependencies of the Empire. As regards the Examinations, he might have made a good many observations, but he would limit himself to expressing his regret that even there the progress had not been such as might have been hoped. There were 1,098 Probationers, but only 303 Students. There was a remarkable diminution in the number of those who came forward as Students compared to those who came forward as Probationers. He had anticipated a large diminution, but not one so great as that. Coming to those who passed the Final, the contrast was greater still. The most important contrast, however, was with reference to those who came up for the Final and were examined and passed or relegated. Last year, of the 63 who came up for the Final, 31 passed and 32 were relegated. That showed a condition of things which could not be wholesome and could not be right, and one he hoped the executive of the Institute would seek to remedy if they possibly could without in the slightest degree lowering the standard of the Examination. Looking into the details of the last Autumn Final Examination, he found that 33 came up and 17 were relegated, and of those 17 no fewer than 15 were relegated in Design and 9 of them in Mouldings and Ornament. The number of those relegated in other subjects was very trivial. That young architects coming up for an examination of that kind, with the preparation that they should have had, and all of them presumably in good offices, should have been relegated to the extent of nearly one-third in Mouldings and Ornament appeared to him astonishing. It was a point to which the Council should devote considerable attention in order to discover some means of remedying it. As regards the 15 relegated in Design, he was astonished at the number, and sought for the cause. He thought he had discovered it. He would read the subject set for Design—and members would bear in mind that this was a subject given to young men just over twenty-one or twenty-two years of age. "Subject: A general hospital in a large town, on a corner site, with 60 feet frontage to main street facing south, and 110 feet frontage to side street facing west. Entrance to hospital in south front; to out-patients' department in west front. Provide beds for forty patients. Residential medical officer (two rooms), porter, four female servants and eight nurses. Also a common room for latter. Drawings required—three plans, two elevations, and one section to one-eighth inch scale, part of one elevation showing entrance to half-inch scale; and one sketch perspective." And the Students had to do the whole of that in 11½ hours. It might be said that every facility was given to these young men to prepare for it, because the subject was notified to them a few days before the examination. But was it not absolutely monstrous that a subject of that sort should be set for young men little over twenty years of age, without the slightest indication to them of any of the details, and that they in 11½ hours were to cudgel their brains and to worry themselves into devising three plans and making two elevations? No wonder there were failures in Design. The only wonder was that they were not candidates for a lunatic asylum. He said, advisedly, that it was a most regrettable thing that a subject of that kind should be set in those terms and in that way. In the earlier days of the Examinations the rule was for the examiner who took charge of that particular division to draw out and complete the whole of the drawings required, and the question was set from those drawings, and from those drawings sufficient indications were given in the way of general dimensions—dimensions of certain rooms and so on—not in order to hamper the design or the skill of the candidate, but to prevent him from wasting his time

uselessly upon solving conundrums which were practically insolvable. Then the subject given was never so formidable as a general hospital. He hoped that that system might be reverted to, and that the gentlemen who were kind enough to take charge of the subject of Design would draw out carefully the subject before they set it, and give some particulars to reduce the mental labour and worry imposed upon the candidates, which led to so many of them failing. Coming to other matters, he should like to ask two questions. One of them related to the Teaching University for London. The Institute was represented before the Gresham Commission, and considerable evidence was given and appendices of considerable length were supplied showing the desirability of establishing a Faculty of Architecture in the new Teaching University. The efforts made by the Institute received considerable approval by the members of that Commission, and they made recommendations which would have placed the Institute and the profession of architecture in the position it ought to occupy among the other learned professions of the Empire. But unfortunately architecture did not command that esteem in the public mind which it should, and when the propositions of the Gresham Commission were revised, architecture was put lower down, and in the scheme propounded for the Teaching University it did not occupy its due position. Deputations waited upon the Lord President of the Council urging upon him and upon the Government the necessity of taking steps to put into operation the recommendations of the Gresham Commission. Unfortunately, by some mischance the gentlemen who represented the Institute on that occasion only went in as ordinary members of the crowd, and were thus precluded from taking any part in the discussion or from urging the claims of Architecture in the same way as the claims of Engineering were urged by the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers. As the result of those deputations and of the pressure brought to bear by other quarters upon the Government, an Act was passed constituting a Statutory Commission which was to draw up the programme of the University, to establish the Faculties, and generally to take all the necessary steps for the founding of the Teaching University. He had reason to believe that considerable progress had been made with the question of those Faculties, and he wished to ask what steps the Institute had taken with respect to its being represented before that Commission, and with respect to the position that Architecture should hold in the Teaching University.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that early in the year a letter was written to the Registrar urging that the Commissioners should receive a deputation who should lay the claims of architecture before the Commissioners. The reply was that the letter would be laid before the Commissioners when the time came for them to decide upon the question. Nothing further had been done.

MR. CATES, continuing, said that the Act was passed in the summer of the year before last. The secretary to the Commission went on a tour on the Continent in order to collect information with respect to the teaching universities, and he was open to receive communications from the Institute or from any other body upon the subject. Only a communication of the indefinite character referred to by the Chairman had been made, and nothing further had been done; and he presumed that the result would be that Architecture would be shunted in the same manner as it had been shunted before, and would probably be put in as an appendage to Civil Engineering. The time spent in laying the claims of Architecture before the Gresham Commission would be wasted. He had written a letter pointing out how urgent it was that effective measures should be taken to put the claims of Architecture before the Commission, but practically nothing had been done. Then there was another point. A new university was about to be established in Birmingham. The Institute had held a meeting and dinner at Birmingham at the very time, within a fortnight of the programme for that university being published. Were any steps taken at that meeting to collect the views of the Birmingham architects upon the subject and urge upon them the importance and necessity of getting Architecture recognised as a distinct faculty?

THE CHAIRMAN said he understood that the Birmingham Association did not seem very anxious on the subject.

MR. CATES: Then they should have been made anxious; they should have had the matter pointed out to them. If they were sluggish, they should have been woke up; and if they did not take steps the Institute should have done so, and let the Birmingham people follow behind. It was really a matter of great importance. If some members of the Council would make themselves acquainted with what had been done in America at the present time with regard to architecture—they had the reports sent from the Massachusetts Institute, the Columbia College, the Pennsylvania College, and others; they had the programmes of these institutions and their whole system of education close under their eye—if they would study these, they would see what was being done in America. The time would come, if they continued sluggish and dullards as they were now, when their young men would go to America to learn that architecture which they ought to be able to acquire at home. Then there was another point which was of very vital importance to the public and to the profession practising in London—viz. the London Government Bill. In the Council's Report he found it mentioned twice. It was mentioned on page 45 in the Report of the Practice Standing Committee: "The Committee have considered the London Government Bill and reported thereon to the Council." Then on page 41 occurred the passage: "The Council have taken public action with regard to the New Vauxhall Bridge and the London Government Bill." What had that action been? They had seen printed a letter addressed to the Government upon the subject. Had any other action been taken? Had any reply been received? If the Council were desirous of following up the course indicated in that letter, had they taken such steps as would secure the moving of the proper amendments in the House, and would secure the support of those amendments by a sufficient force of opinion in the House to enable the interests which they were supposed to protect to be protected?

THE CHAIRMAN said that, with regard to the London Government Bill, an arrangement had been made for a deputation from the Council of the Institute to see Mr. Balfour at the same time that he would be seen by the members of the District Surveyors' Association. Copies of the letter referred to by Mr. Cates had been sent to Members of Parliament; and a member of the House of Commons, who sympathised with the architects' views, had undertaken to look after the proper representation of the Institute when the Bill came up for discussion in Committee.

MR. WM. WOODWARD [A.] said that the Report of the Council was absolutely barren. That had to some extent been indicated by Mr. Cates with regard to the London Government Bill, but he should proceed to further justify the term "barren" which he had applied to it. With regard to the financial statement, he had made some slight comparison between the finances of 1898 and the previous years. He noted an increase of £192 in the salaries, and contended that the Report should state to whom extra salaries had been granted.

THE SECRETARY asked to be allowed to state that the matter was referred to and explained in the Auditors' report, which would presently be read.

MR. WOODWARD said if he had seen the Auditors' report he should not have mentioned the matter. If the Auditors' report was of any value at all it ought to accompany the financial statement, and be

issued to members with the Annual Report. He would suggest that in future, if there were an Auditors' report, it should accompany the Report of the Council. The total income to December 1897 was 6,189*l.*, and to 31st December 1898 it was 6,592*l.*, or an addition of about 415*l.* That was satisfactory, and it was equally satisfactory to know that over 1,000*l.* had been invested, forming, he hoped, a fund for providing the Institute with a building worthy of the position which Architecture now held in the public estimation. Touching one or two items in the expenditure account, he noted that the KALENDAR cost 8*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* to send out in 1897, and 22*l.* 7*s.* in 1898, an addition of 14*l.* [THE CHAIRMAN explained that the excess was mainly owing to the extra cost of packing and postage, due to the large increase of advertisements, which added to the bulk of the volume.] Then under the head of "miscellaneous expenses," there was the sum of 10*l.* for the translation of Professor Ussing's pamphlet. He did not know who Professor Ussing was, or what the pamphlet was about. That was a piece of information the Annual Report might have given. [THE CHAIRMAN said he must refer the speaker to the JOURNAL, where full particulars would be found.] Then there was the sum of 11*l.* for "frame for portrait." They were not told whose portrait it was. If it was of their last President, could it not have been stated in the Report? Then he might refer to page 41, where the Council announced that since the 31st December they had been enabled to invest 1,500*l.* The year was not mentioned, and one could only assume that the sum was invested since 31st December 1898. [THE CHAIRMAN intimated that such was the case.] Then the year should have been put in the report. Coming to the extraordinary document which they termed the Report of the Council, he would direct attention at once to page 41, to the paragraph which said: "The Council have taken public action with regard to the New Vauxhall Bridge and the London Government Bill." With regard to the New Vauxhall Bridge, he would repeat what he had said about the previous action of the Council on other matters. The observations of the Council, transmitted to the Government or to the London County Council, were interpreted by those bodies to come from the Royal Institute of British Architects as a body. As a matter of fact it was nothing of the kind. Whether members agreed or disagreed with the action of the Institute with regard to Vauxhall Bridge; whether they agreed or disagreed with the letter Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Mountford had written to Sir Alexander Binnie, which they apparently afterwards regretted; whether they agreed to granite or stone, he contended that, without some information being given to the Institute of the action taken by those committees, it should be very clearly laid down that those views, whether right or wrong, represented not the 1500 members of the Institute, but of the few gentlemen more or less acquainted with the subject upon which they had ventured to dictate to those public bodies, to Parliament, and to the London County Council. [THE CHAIRMAN, replying, said that it was impossible to bring those matters before the general body in time to obtain its opinion so as to be of any use when matters were urgent. The Council were elected by the general body to act on behalf of the Institute, and he thought that when they had taken action the general body should back them up.] On the same page they were told: "The Competitions Committee had had several meetings, and action had been taken with regard to the following competitions," and then several competitions were mentioned. But nothing more. There was not one single word with regard to the London Government Bill and the New Vauxhall Bridge, informing members of the action which had been taken. The Council had said that it would be an advantage to consult members as to the various matters dealt with by the Council, but why should not their Annual Report tell members what action had been taken with regard to the competitions referred to? [THE CHAIRMAN said that in very many cases they could not have published the details of the action they had taken with regard to competitions without rendering themselves liable to actions for libel.] At the bottom of page 41 they were informed that "At the request of the Court of Common Council of the City of London the Council have nominated six architects to send in designs for the new Sessions House, Old Bailey." That was one of the plums which he was very happy to think fell to the lot of the Council; but could not the Council have told them the names of those six architects who had been nominated to prepare the designs for the Old Bailey? [THE CHAIRMAN believed it was a matter of public knowledge who those architects were.] He (Mr. Woodward) did not know them; and if it were a matter of public knowledge, why should it not have been printed in the JOURNAL? Coming to page 42, the report of the Art Standing Committee always filled him with amusement. The first paragraph said: "Plans and particulars of proposed additions to St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, were submitted to your Committee." It was not stated by whom the plans were submitted. But the concluding lines of the paragraph were somewhat startling: "Your Committee determined that assuming additional accommodation to be necessary for the efficient performance of the services of the Cathedral it would be legitimate and reasonable to provide it." If that did not make one proud of membership of the Royal Institute of British Architects he did not know what would! Then with regard to Kew Bridge, the Committee "urgently recommended the adoption of granite or stone as the material for the bridge." The report did not state that any other material was proposed. It went on: "The Secretary wrote to the County Councils of Middlesex and Surrey conveying this recommendation," and "in reply the Institute was informed that stone would be used." In order to make this paragraph of any use at all the writer should have said that it had been proposed that the bridge should be built of something; but nothing of the kind was said, and one could only assume that it was intended to build it of stone, and they had simply got what was intended. Then at the end of the paragraph "Historic Buildings in London" it is stated that "the Conference determined to prepare a register of all buildings of architectural or historic interest in the County of London, and a committee was appointed, of which the Hon. Secretary of the committee is a member." But there were two Hon. Secretaries of the Committee, Mr. Mountford and Mr. Owen Fleming—probably they would settle among themselves which was *the* Hon. Secretary of the Committee. In the next paragraph he observed that the Institute had been meddling, as usual, with matters which had far better be meddled with by Italian architects than by members of this Institute—"Florentine Monuments." He remembered that, some years ago, "Ouida" the novelist wrote a stinging letter to *The Times* on the demolition of the central part of Florence. He happened to be in that city at the time, and he called upon the engineer, who showed him his plans. He then visited the centre which was proposed to be demolished, and he found it consisted of buildings certainly not exceeding two hundred years old, and that it was an absolute fever den, causing numerous deaths. "Ouida" said that if that place were destroyed it would mean the destruction of archæological interests, and so on. It would have been much better if the Royal Institute of British Architects had confined themselves to improving their own monuments; and when they had done that it would be time to dictate to the Florentine architects. Then there was another paragraph —"Decoration of St. Paul's Cathedral. This matter is engaging the attention of your Committee." Everything seemed to be engaging the attention of the Committee, but they did not see the result of that attention. He saw by the public prints that a deputation from the Institute waited upon the Dean. He should like to know who composed that deputation, who

instructed it to go, and what was the result. [THE CHAIRMAN stated that the Report was printed before the deputation saw the Dean. A minute of the interview would be given in the next number of the JOURNAL.] Then there came this paragraph: "The following subjects have also received the consideration of the Committee:—Portrait of Sir William Chambers, &c." And that concluded the Report of the Art Standing Committee. Not one word was said about those things. This brought him to the Report of the Practice Standing Committee, which said: "The points raised on the Institute Conditions of Contract referred to in the last Report, and also other important questions on these Conditions referred to the Committee by the Council, were very fully considered and reports thereon sent to the Council." Why should not members have those reports? They were of extreme importance to those who took part in the discussion, and to those who knew that those conditions of contract were not signed by the best builders in London, and would not be signed until they were entirely altered. [THE CHAIRMAN replied that the matter was still under consideration. A committee of the Council was in communication with a committee of the Institute of Builders, and endeavouring to bring their mutual ideas upon these contracts into line, with a view to satisfactory agreement. Nothing was reported, because the negotiations were not completed.]

MR. WOODWARD, continuing, said he was glad to hear the Chairman's statement. The concluding paragraph of the Practice Committee's report stated: "The Committee have considered the London Government Bill, and reported thereon to the Council." That report should have been communicated to members. [THE CHAIRMAN: The report was incorporated in the letter which had appeared in the JOURNAL.] With regard to the Science Committee's reference to the publication of the results of the brickwork experiments, he supposed that by the time their sons had become old men the results of those experiments would be published. He was sorry to see the letter which the Council had addressed to Mr. Max Clarke after the trouble he had taken in the matter, and the enormous amount of time he had spent upon it. The letter, as printed in the JOURNAL, gave him permission to publish the results, on condition that he did not mention the name of the Institute in connection with the experiments. That was a most extraordinary proceeding for the Royal Institute of British Architects, who had initiated those proceedings, and led the Committee to take so much trouble. Finally, he had one general observation to make. He had spoken of what the Council had not done; might he venture to say what he thought the Council might have done? If this had been an active Council, useful to the profession at large, they might have said something about light and air. He was quite aware that the subject had been brought before the Institute on many occasions; but what had not been before the Institute, and what had not received the attention it might have received from the hands of the Council was this, that there was decidedly growing up on the part of many architects and surveyors practising in London a system of blackmailing—there was no other word for it—their fellow architects. There were men who got their living by pressing forward threats of legal action, pressing forward requisitions for money, and, in fact, performing actions which certainly were not worthy of members of an honourable profession. He trusted the subject would meet with the attention of the Council. Then, so far as he knew, the Council had taken no active measures with regard to the Birmingham Meeting. He attended that meeting, and the Chairman promised that the subject of Local Administration of Building By-laws should receive the Council's consideration. He knew it had received some sort of consideration, but they did not press it forward; they let the time elapse until it was too late. There was another matter which he thought might engage the attention of the Council, and that was the speech made by the Lord Chief Justice on Secret Commissions. Lord Russell, he believed, specifically referred to architects as men who were in the habit of dealing with these secret commissions. He was not speaking of anything that was not tolerably well known to members of the profession when he stated that there were many architects who made a practice of accepting commissions from tradesmen whom they engaged to carry out their works. There were many members of the profession who indulged in secret practices—members even of the Institute.

THE CHAIRMAN said that if Mr. Woodward knew this to be the fact, it was his duty to bring their names forward.

MR. WOODWARD said that by so doing he would lay himself open to an action for libel! It was a thing which was perfectly well known.

THE CHAIRMAN said that a statement to the discredit of a generally honourable body of men ought not to be made without some substantiation. It would not bring him (Mr. Woodward) within the scope of an action for libel if his statements were true and could be proved.

MR. WOODWARD: It could not be proved, because the tradesmen would not divulge it, as it was against their interests. But if that was the view of the general body of the Institute, let the Institute address a letter to the Lord Chief Justice.

THE CHAIRMAN stated that that had been done by the Council at their Meeting that afternoon.

MR. WOODWARD, continuing, said that there was another matter. With regard to competitions—he had never heard a single instance in which the Institute had helped young men who suffered from—he would not say fraud—but, at any rate, improper dealings of committees with regard to competitions. If the Institute could take some legal action he thought it would be of great service.

THE CHAIRMAN remarked that the Council had often taken action. It had not been necessary to take legal action. They had been able to manage the matter without that.

MR. WOODWARD: There was one other matter he thought the Report might have mentioned. It was somewhat curious that there were present at that meeting three gentlemen—Mr. Arthur Cates, Mr. Charles Fowler, and Mr. Thomas Blashill—who had left the ranks of active men—who had done a great deal of work in their way for the architecture of London, and who now resigned themselves to, he hoped, many years of quiet enjoyment as some recompense for the activity they had displayed. He thought the Report of the Council might very well have referred to those gentlemen. Concluding, he hoped the Council would be a little more active, and in their next report would cease to adopt the method of stating that they had taken action without informing them what action they had taken.

MR. H. HARDWICKE LANGSTON [*A.*] asked for an explanation of the item in the accounts "Advertisements in newspapers."

THE CHAIRMAN stated that it referred to advertised announcements of Examinations and the annual exhibition.

MR. LANGSTON wished to call attention to announcements of meetings of the Institute in the calendar of daily papers, under the heading of "To-day." Some of these announcements simply read "Architects' meeting, 8 P.M." Either the papers might be informed that the Institute did not require gratuitous notice of their meeting, or if they were kind enough to give it notice, they might at least give the Institute its proper name. There were other societies of architects, and the announcement, worded as he had mentioned, did not convey to the public that the Institute was intended.

THE CHAIRMAN said that endeavour had been made

to get the name of the Institute correctly given in such cases, but they had, of course, no control over the papers.

MR. J. DOUGLASS MATHEWS [*F.*] asked if Mr. Balfour had agreed to receive a deputation from the Institute on the London Government Bill.

THE CHAIRMAN said that he had not agreed to do so, but arrangements had been made for a deputation on behalf of the Council to wait upon him at the same time as the deputation from the District Surveyors' Association, and, of course, in unison with them. They had the same objects in view.

MR. MATHEWS said that the District Surveyors had no appointment with Mr. Balfour. He understood that the letter on the Bill had been circulated to all Members of Parliament, but he did not think there had been any resolution proposed, and no Member had been asked to take charge of it.

THE SECRETARY stated that Mr. A. W. Soames, Member for South Norfolk, who was the only architect in the House of Commons, had volunteered his services to the Institute. There was no amendment down in his name, but a letter had been received from Mr. Soames stating that there were three amendments down by other Members, and that he would support them. The amendment was with regard to the elimination of Clause 6.

MR. MATHEWS thought it very desirable that the Institute should be represented not simply by one Member, especially as he was not a member of the Institute. They ought to get some member of the Council to take the matter up and push it forward. The District Surveyors' Association were taking action, but though the objects were to a certain extent identical, yet they looked at the matter from a different point of view. He had seen several Members of the House of Commons upon it, and they seemed very much impressed by the Report and the position of the Institute. He thought, therefore, that the Institute should do all it possibly could to get Members of the House generally to interest themselves in it and support it when the time came. The Practice Committee endeavoured as far as possible to consider the matter purely from the architectural point of view. The District Surveyors looked at the matter not merely from the public point of view, but also from that of their own private interests.

MR. EDWIN T. HALL [*F.*] said he had seen in the papers lately that the Church of St. Mary Woolnoth was to be pulled down. The Institute had taken a very active interest in saving it at the time the Underground Railway came there, and as a result it was decided that it should not be removed, but that the station should be erected underneath it, and that had been done. He was told, however, that the Bishop of London had agreed to the amalgamation of that parish with another and to the removal of the church. He hoped the Institute would take the same active course which they had taken before, so that they might have in that big open space some evidence of Christianity, where the god Mammon was so keenly worshipped. It would be a lamentable thing from an architectural point of view if the church were removed from that site, and he sincerely hoped the voice of the Institute would be heard against it.

THE CHAIRMAN said that from his own personal knowledge he could say that the interior of St. Mary Woolnoth was being refitted and restored at the present moment. He had not heard a single word about its proposed removal. The Council would make inquiry about it, and take action in the matter if there were any truth in the report.

In reply to Mr. Hall as to what was being done with regard to the Secret Commissions Bill, the Chairman stated that the matter had been very carefully considered by the Council that afternoon. A letter was to be addressed by the Council to the Lord Chief Justice, enclosing copies of the declarations made by members of the Institute, and offering to come forward and give evidence, and do everything in their power to support his Bill.

MR. HALL, referring to the London Government Bill, asked whether the Institute were merely going in at the tail of the District Surveyors' Association, or had the Government been asked to receive a deputation from the Institute.

THE CHAIRMAN replied that a separate deputation would go from the Institute, and the Council would press the question so that the Institute might be heard.

MR. HALL then referred to the advertisement of the Institute publications on page 38 of the *Supplement* containing the Report. Only a part of the publications were there given. This was a mistake, and misleading. They should all be advertised together. They were a great source of profit. He was informed that last year as many as 2,750 copies of the form of building contract were sold. The new Scale of Charges should be added, and he should be glad to receive a copy, as he had not seen one yet. [THE CHAIRMAN stated that a copy had been forwarded with the JOURNAL to every member of the Institute.] Mr. Hall, continuing, said that, with reference to Mr. Woodward's criticism of the action of the Council, he would respectfully suggest to the Meeting that it was their duty to encourage the Council to take action as frequently as they thought right. They were the elected representative body of the Institute, and the more active they were—always presupposing that they gave careful consideration to the action they took—the greater would be the service they would render the public and the Institute. Therefore they should act at once, and not wait to bring matters before the General Meetings. The Council were to be cordially congratulated on the appointment of the two architects for the Government buildings. The Government had shown that deference and respect to the Institute which ought to be shown, and all would agree that no better appointments could have been made than Messrs. Brydon and Young for those important buildings.

MR. C. H. BRODIE [*A.*] wished to support Mr. Hall in his remarks as to the action of the Council on public questions. There was no more satisfactory portion of the report than that which indicated that the Council was moving in public matters, that they were being listened to, and, more than that, that the Council were being asked to nominate architects for important public buildings. With regard to the paragraph stating that "The Council have taken public action with regard to the new Vauxhall Bridge and the London Government Bill," he thought that statement would have been more just and more satisfactory if the words "At the suggestion of the Art and Practice Standing Committees respectively" had been added. In sending a communication to the public Press such as that letter on the London Government Bill, it was of course only right that it should go as from the Council of the Institute; but he could not help thinking that in the last issue of the JOURNAL, where the letter appeared, it should have been stated that the letter was the suggestion, almost in its entirety, of the Practice Standing Committee. That Committee had given a large amount of time to the matter, and he thought, in justice to the Committee and in common fairness, that work should be noticed. On page 45 there was a paragraph in the Science Committee's report as to the publication of the results of the brickwork tests as to which he had already made some remarks at a previous meeting. The excuse offered by the Hon. Secretary for the non-action of the Council was that Professor Unwin had stated that those reports were not reliable, or words to that effect. Since that time his attention had been called to a book published by Professor Unwin. Letters had also appeared in the last number of the JOURNAL in which Mr. Max Clarke was informed officially by the Council that he might publish the results of those tests, provided the name of

the Institute was not mentioned. He agreed with Mr. Woodward that that suggestion was a ridiculous one, and it was at least funny to notice that on page 413 of Professor Unwin's book, only just published, there was the heading "Tests of Brick Piers by a Committee of the Institute of British Architects." Professor Unwin could make use of those tests in a book of his own, but the Council would not allow them to be referred to as Institute tests by a member of the Institute Committee which made them. The Council had refused, until they were requested to do so by a General Meeting of the Institute, to publish those tests in a get-at-able and convenient form instead of being spread through sundry numbers of the JOURNAL. They refused to publish them, but Professor Unwin did so. He should say, looking at that book, that the Council had been "bluffed."

MR. OWEN FLEMING [*A.*] asked if the Council contemplated taking any action with regard to the Paris Exhibition, either in the way of representation of buildings or in some other way, or whether there was any idea of organising an official visit of the Institute to Paris.

THE CHAIRMAN said that no special action had been taken by the Council up to the present, but the Institute was represented on the Prince of Wales's Committee by the President, who would bring whatever was necessary to their notice, and action would then be taken.

MR. FLEMING explained that he was speaking of a visit of the Institute as a whole to the Exhibition. If there was anything of the kind contemplated, the Council ought to get in communication with the Societies.

MR. MATT. GARBUTT [*A.*] asked whether Professor Unwin had stated in his book that the results of the brickwork experiments were unreliable. If not, he should like to know whether the Council were now prepared to go ahead and publish the results.

MR. BRODIE said there was no intimation whatever in the book that they were unreliable.

MR. JOHN SLATER [*F.*], referring to Mr. Cates's remarks on the Examinations, said it was a matter of regret to all members of the Board of Examiners, as well as to all members of the Institute, that the number of failures had been so many in recent examinations. They were bound, however, not to lower the standard of the Examinations in the interests of those who had already passed. The Institute, unfortunately, had nothing whatever to do with education, and they were only able to examine students in the knowledge they had obtained in other places. He was perfectly willing to admit, as regarded the subject of Design, to which Mr. Cates alluded so caustically, that it was a mistake the Board of Examiners would take care was never repeated. Unfortunately, they were not, as a body, infallible, and they occasionally made mistakes. It was felt afterwards that that subject had not been sufficiently considered when it was given, and he hoped that no such subject would be given again. But with regard to the failures, they were bound to keep up the standard. He hoped that at the next examination—and he was happy to hear the number of candidates was very considerable—a much larger proportion of candidates would pass. As to what fell from Mr. Woodward about Professor Ussing's pamphlet on Vitruvius, he was afraid very few members of the Institute were able to appreciate that pamphlet. But he would like to say that it was on the strong representation of the President that the paper was published. He had heard, quite casually, from a man, not an architect, who was a leading classical scholar in this country, that he had read the paper with the greatest interest, and that he considered it one of the most important communications on the subject of Vitruvius which had recently been published.

MR. E. W. HUDSON [*A.*], referring to the paragraph about the Florentine monuments, said that the memorial against their demolition had been largely signed by members of the Institute. Mr. Woodward appeared to think it was somewhat of an impertinence for members to say anything on the matter. He protested against that. If they had to consider the feelings of everybody in doing an action they felt to be right, he was afraid very little would be done towards saving threatened monuments. He wished that some civilised or uncivilised individuals who were in power had raised their voices to save some of our own monuments which had been ruthlessly, wantonly, and ignorantly destroyed, especially at the beginning of this century, when some English cathedrals suffered terribly at the hands of the—not restorers, but destroyers. He hoped that this would be a precedent, and that when anything of the kind occurred again the voice of the Institute would be heard in protest. He was surprised to hear Mr. Woodward limit the interest of buildings to those more than two hundred years old. Thirty years ago he might have agreed with Mr. Woodward, when he (the speaker) believed there was no salvation outside fourteenth-century Gothic, but he had altered his opinion since then, and if they did not take care of monuments which were less than two hundred years old, they would be doing an injustice to those who came after them.

THE CHAIRMAN said he would endeavour to answer the questions not already answered as shortly as possible. All were glad to see their old friend Mr. Arthur Cates back again, to see the active interest he still took in their concerns; and, though his criticism had been sharp, everybody knew that it was well intentioned, and that the Council could not do better than pay the closest attention to any remarks that fell from his lips. He could promise that his views should be represented to the Council, and well considered, and he hoped also by the Board of Examiners. The unfortunate fiasco on the subject of Design had been a matter of great regret to the Council and everybody connected with the Examinations. No doubt it had thrown back men who ought to have passed. They could only hope that these candidates would come up again and pass among another batch. The question raised about blackmailing in cases of Light and Air was unfortunately only too familiar to practising architects, particularly in the City. How to remedy it he did not know, except by treating those who brought that class of action as they deserved to be treated in the ordinary course of practice. Of course, if they overstepped the bounds of honesty there was a remedy both outside the Institute and in the Institute itself, but they were rarely so stupid as to leave the means of getting at them in that way. But a great deal could be done by those who understood the business in outwitting them in the conduct of the actions which ensued. He had devoted a great deal of his energy and intelligence to that purpose for many years past. With regard to the supposed retirement of the three gentlemen mentioned by Mr. Woodward, he thought Mr. Woodward's statement somewhat premature. They were all in good health, and, although they might have abdicated some of their official positions, they had not entirely given up the active practice of their profession, and he hoped they would remain for many years active members of the Institute.

The Chairman concluded by putting the motion for the adoption of the report, which was carried unanimously.

MR. J. M. BRYDON [*F.*] briefly referred to the report of the deputation to the Dean of St. Paul's (p. 375). The deputation had impressed upon the Dean the mistake that was being made, and the Dean distinctly said that a great deal of the work was experimental, and that, at all events, the stencilling would be stopped. They hoped for a great deal more than that; but as negotiations were still proceeding, it would not be wise to say what had been done or how far they had got. He thought, at all events, that the decoration in the dome would not be carried any further.